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LVII. EUROPEAN COMMERCE, *shewing new and secure Channels of Trade, with the Continent of Europe: detailing the Produce, Manufactures, and Commerce of Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, and Germany: as well as the Trade to the Rivers Elbe, Weser, and Ems; with a general View of the Trade, Navigation, Produce, and Manufactures of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and its unexplored and improvable Resources and interior Wealth. Illustrated with a Canal and River Map of Europe. By J. JEPSON ODDY, Member of the Russia, and Turkey, or Levant Companies. 4to. pp. 650, 2l. 12s. 6d. boards. 1805. Hatchard; Richardsons.*

THE great importance of an extensive commerce, to the welfare, if not to the existence of the British nation, under the present circumstances of the world, is not unknown; but the value of its particular departments, and the excellence of its particular channels, are neither properly ascertained, nor well understood; except by a few individuals at the head of affairs, or by a few, a small number indeed, of its merchants, who unite liberal, intelligent, and well stored minds, to the advantages afforded by local and practical knowledge of mercantile concerns. The truth of these positions, will require little demonstration, to enforce conviction on

LIT. MAG. 1805.

the observing mind; because, the slightest attention to the prevailing opinions of people in general with respect to commerce, will convince even the most sceptical, that all are satisfied as to its necessity and usefulness; whilst perhaps scarce one in a hundred, and those even the most celebrated of our merchants, can give a series of satisfactory reasons for it, or say why and wherefore: the depths of commerce are probably far more profound than they can fathom, as the present modes of education must indubitably lead them to be traders by rote, and hardly can teach them two ideas beyond their own particular department, or their own connections and concerns.

That the skilful and accomplished merchant ought to combine a thorough local knowledge of business, with a complete knowledge of trade, in all or the principal of its departments, and both of these with an extensive acquaintance with the produce, situation, extent, government, and laws of nations in general, and more particularly of those with which he trades, together with their several dependencies on each other, and on the nations in which he resides, in order to ensure the most happy success, we apprehend will require little demonstration, as it must be self evident: yet how few of our merchants appear to possess the talents requisite to form commercial statesmen; situations which they certainly might, from

their opportunities of acquiring knowledge, be often competent to undertake. Happy it is for mankind, that they are not rigidly compelled to proceed in a certain, a given, a difficult route to ensure success, seeing how rare it is to find an individual who is capable of departing from the common track, however distorted from the direct line of approach. And, so long as sensual gratifications, gig driving, and similar, but not less brilliant qualifications, shall be the sole aim, and occupy the whole attention of the British youth, we expect less from them than we experience from their fathers. Whilst such are the pursuits of those, whose friends are capable of affording them the best of educations, need we wonder that they worship the goddess of dulness with adoration the most profound; or that the good citizens of London should be celebrated for this worship, the kingdom round. It is a great, we had nearly said, it is the greatest of curses which can befall a nation, that its youth can spend their time as they please, with money at their command, to further the propensities incident to inexperience and idleness.

Whilst we thus censure, where censure is justly due, we are not less glad to avail ourselves of an occasional opportunity of bestowing praise; and that it is now and then due to individuals of the class more immediately in our eye, in the foregoing remarks. The work of Mr. Jackson on the Commerce of the Mediterranean, is undoubtedly entitled to our highest praise, with respect to the information which it conveys, subject, however, to some limitation in regard to authorship, from which the one under consideration is in a great measure free: together they contain a complete round of information on the commerce of the European division of the globe.

On the first glance at the pre-

sent work, it is impossible not to discover in its author the man of intelligence, of great local knowledge, of enlarged and liberal views, united with the scientific and practical merchant; and that these qualifications, in conjunction with tolerable elegance of style, and lucid arrangement, contribute to keep up its interest; whilst the information which it contains is immense. His opportunities and industry greatly contribute to its perfection, he having, it is said, been a great favourite with the Russian government: and finding that his materials were not so perfect as he could desire, he paid a visit to the north, for the express purpose of obtaining better and more extensive ones. The result of the whole has been, that he has contributed to raise his profession to some rank in the literary world, and to rescue his brethren in some measure from the obloquy thrown on their literary acquirements. He has also produced a book well worthy the serious attention of our young merchants; and would they devote their time to the perusal of it, and others of a similar cast, rather than to sensuality and effeminacy, we should speedily feel the proud satisfaction, of having completely surmounted the obstacles thrown in our way by the absurd and half witted policy of a neighbouring ruler; and eventually we should diffuse our own liberal sentiments amongst nations not yet emerged from barbarism.

On an attentive perusal of the work, we feel glad that Mr. Oddy has been presented to his majesty, and that he has experienced distinguished marks of his approbation; because by this circumstance we are induced to hope, that our ministry have it in contemplation to adopt, or are taking measures to open a source or channel of trade, which it shall be out of the power of our implacable foes to divert, unless they shall be-

come masters of Austria, and shall be able to penetrate into the heart of Russia when they please: both of which circumstances are highly improbable, in the present state of the world. Thus then, if Providence favour, we shall be able to maintain war, unceasing war, till they shall come to their senses; and that, with resources proportionate to our exertions; whilst those nations, who have so tamely submitted to their sway, shall equally with, and not less justly than them, be excluded from the benefits and advantages of peaceable and quiet commerce.

We may venture to predict, that if France must rule the roost, and exclusively occupy the commerce of the world, that it never can be under the policy pursued by her present rulers, and if not by their policy, not by them, as they appear totally destitute of the knowledge essential to cause it to vegetate, much more to flourish: their plans, in reality, appear much better calculated to destroy the germ, than to cause it to put forth. If the emperor of the French, and his factotum, be seriously anxious to extend the commerce of that kingdom, a circumstance by the way, out of their contemplation, if not beyond their comprehension, had they not better have contented themselves with silently and quietly calling forth the resources of France; and put in action the means best calculated to draw forth her industry and internal resources, rather than to have encouraged war? France might thus have gradually risen in the scale of nations, to that proud pre-eminence she so ardently desires, and for which her central situation so admirably adapts her. By her present conduct, however, which infallibly demonstrates her intentions, besides destroying her internal prosperity, she has completely opened the eyes of the whole world; and

roused them to call forth all their energies to resist her. Happy was it for England that she was deterred from going to war by the flimsy mask thrown over her actions, after the peace of Amiens; and, if the plans of Mr. Oddy, or some of a similar import, shall be fairly put in practice, she may proudly say, Britain can cope single-handed with France.

The route in which the commerce between England and the north of Europe has hitherto been carried on, with the exception of Russia, was through the ports between Flanders and the Sound, and a few of those in the Baltic. The miserable policy and power of Bonaparte, conjoined to the timidity and temporizing system of the nations possessing them, has enabled him to interrupt it, not only through them, but through the remainder of the ports between Flanders and the Gulf of Venice, those of Portugal excepted. The same policy would likewise lead him to shut the Baltic against us, but he dare not enter it, well knowing, that it would not only be taking the bull by the horns, but that he would also raise the northern hive about his ears, to his great annoyance, if not utter extinction. The ports in that sea, therefore, being open, and likely to continue so, the principal object of Mr. Oddy's work is to point out a new route for our northern commerce, and to convey useful information on the means of reducing his ideas to practice. His new and secure channels of trade are two, but both ultimately join together, and certainly promise the most decided advantages to this country. From England to Tonningen his proposed route is the same, but those who chuse, may pass the Sound, and fall into it again off Königsburg, where the author divides it into two; we shall take the nearest, and then proceed with the other. The goods to

be landed at Tonningen, and conveyed partly by land, and partly by a canal, to Kiel; from Kiel up the Baltic off Königsburg, where his two routes separate, as before mentioned, and the one under consideration subdivides, to the latter place and to Memel. From these two ports up the Memel, or the Njemen river, and its canals, into the Priecz river, which runs into the Dnieper, and down it into the Black Sea. The other route is from off Königsburg to Riga, from that place up the Düna, by the Beresinski canal, to the Beresin, a river which falls into the Dnieper, at the same place with the Priecz; hence the two routes become identified, and continue down the Dnieper to Odesa in the Black Sea.

Our readers need only cast their eyes on a map of Europe, to be convinced of the security and excellence of this channel of trade; and that it promises all the advantages of, and many more than those in which it has usually been conducted: the author's object has been, as we said above, to make it known; and if any man, or company of men, ever deserved well of their country, it must surely be those whose enlarged and liberal minds can point out new sources of wealth and prosperity, and communicate the information necessary to render them useful, and to insure the success of those who engage in them.

Such, then, is the object of Mr. Oddy's work, and such the plans developed by his extended mercantile knowledge; we trust that they, or similar ones, will quickly be acted on, both by England and Russia, and by the other powers in the vicinity of the latter. Thus may we hope to convince even the shallow-crowned admirers of the Emperor of the French, that the brilliant examples of Holland and Spain, will not be followed by other European nations; and that they will not, like those, be disposed

to kiss the iron sceptre of the maddest of those horribly great men, commonly called conquerors.

Before proceeding with an account of the work, we shall present our readers with the author's ideas on the importance and utility of the plans which he proposes: the extract also contains some judicious observations on the late armed neutrality of the north: the circumstances attending and consequent on which are tolerably well known; but there are still many people who think rather opposite to the truth of the case, and only perhaps wink at it, without mentioning their thoughts, from convenience: Mr. O. however, places the matter in its real and proper point of view.

"These conventions nearly go to settle the point in dispute with regard to the contraband of war; a question which, at the bottom, has nothing so materially important as the nations concerned seem to think. It appears that the armed neutrality was, in fact, rather brought about by the particular views of the Russian government, than by the mutual interest of the high contracting parties. Denmark and Sweden evidently followed the impulse of Russia; and to them, whatever grievance might exist, it was, at least, not a new one, and had never before been considered in that light. We have seen that, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, a fleet of sixty sail of Hanseatic ships was taken and destroyed, because they were carrying stores to Spain, at that time preparing, with the great armada, to invade England. Yet, so natural was this thought to be, that the Hanseatics, though extremely insolent, in a remonstrance relative to their privileges in England, a few years after, did not complain about the burning of their ships when they were carrying aid to an enemy.

"The law of nature and of nations, though generally but very imperfectly obeyed, undoubtedly rendered the burning of the Hanseatic ships a matter of right; for, on such a service, they could only be consi-

dered as the ships of an enemy; it is not the ownership, but the service upon which they are, that determines this point; and, therefore, the ships of an ally, assisting an enemy, are to be considered as enemies. In 1652, the Danes, who were not at war with England, but excited by the Dutch, stopped in the Sound, a fleet of more than twenty English ships, laden with pitch, tar, flax, hemp, and other naval stores.

"The armed neutrality, then, ought to be considered chiefly as the act of Russia; though Sweden and Denmark acquiesced in it twice: it ought also to be considered as a departure from a very ancient practice, founded on the rights of nations and the nature of things.

"It is well known, that laws are made to regulate interests and prevent transactions that are improper in themselves, and that would be advantageous to some, and hurtful to others. Those who find the operation of law injurious to their interest wish to set it aside; and those who find its operation favourable, wish it to be obeyed; and as, amongst nations, the power is too apt to regulate the will, Russia, with her increased strength, felt disposed to produce an alteration more favourable to her own interests; and Sweden and Denmark, acting from similar motives, were ready to join their efforts for the same purpose.

"Why, it may be asked, did Denmark and Sweden remain quiet during six years of the last war, and become dissatisfied the moment that Russia was so? Why did they turn against England in the midst of a struggle, on her part, to defend the interests of civilized society? It is clear they had neither calculated the consequences, nor looked back to the history of former times; and, if they are now treated with indifference by the French, it is little more than what might be expected. The aggrandizement of France could be no matter of consideration to them, else they would not, during a contest to prevent it, have joined their efforts in aid of France. As to the conduct of Russia on that last occasion, the state of the unfortunate, though well-intentioned monarch who then ruled, precludes the ne-

cessity of inquiring into it. But Sweden and Denmark were not in a similar situation. If they acted from fear, and in consequence of threats, they were wrong; they should rather have asserted their independence, to prevent the operation of such undue influence. Russia, alone, would neither then have had a pretext nor the means of annoyance in such a cause, great as its power is.

"In order that we may be able to judge from facts, whether the nations of the north had any occasion to complain of England hurting and interrupting their trade, let us look at the amount of imports; comparing two years of last war with two years during the peace, and we shall see that the increase, comparing 1784 and 1785, with 1801 and 1802, is nearly thus:

"Imports from Russia have increased from 450,000*l.* to 1,230,000*l.* that is, they are four times greater than they were; those of Denmark have nearly doubled, and those of Sweden have done the same; and if those two latter powers have not increased still more, it is owing to themselves: we cannot purchase what they have not got to sell; and, if they do not increase their produce more rapidly, their commerce must feel the effects.

"It may be hoped, that a convention being entered into, and the improbability of Russia ever being so unfortunately guided as she was in 1800, will prevent any future discussions on this subject, which, as we have seen, originated rather in private motives than in justice; still, however, as there is a possibility that what has happened may happen again, it may not be improper to inquire into the consequences of such hostilities.

"The chief trade of Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, is with England; that would, in the first place, be interrupted; and England, during that interruption, would find it necessary either to raise at home, or procure from America, the articles now obtained from those nations. This, we shall see, is perfectly practicable, and the trade never would return to its present state. The northern nations would then be great losers, independent of the expenses

of the war, which, at all events, would be considerable; and the object for which they fought would be destroyed, whether they succeeded or failed. Let us suppose, for a moment, that England was compelled to yield, where would then be the commerce of Russia? Is it not the naval power and greatness of England that occasions the chief consumption of naval stores in every country? Would the materials for a few frigates, such as are maintained by the states of America, support the commerce of the northern nations; and if England were destroyed, where would be the necessity for any thing more?

If, on the contrary, England conquered, the destruction of the rising navy of Russia would be certain; Denmark and Sweden would sustain a loss that twenty years of commerce would not repair, particularly of such mutilated commerce as they would then enjoy.

"At the same time that these are matters of very serious consideration for the northern powers, the British government should consider that its great commerce and naval power do certainly excite envy, and tend to the humiliation of other nations; and, therefore, every harsh or vexatious proceeding should be studiously avoided on her part. It is only by such conduct, and a fair understanding of the case, and a calculation of the consequences, that we can expect to avoid discontents at some future period; for, as the convention grants to the northern powers more than we wished to give, though something less than they wished to have, it is in vain for us to deceive ourselves in thinking that either party is fully satisfied.

"We shall see, in the course of this work, that Britain has resources within herself, that may enable her to become independent of the northern nations for their produce; and that, therefore, the consequences hinted at, in case of further efforts on their part to injure England, are not only natural, but will be necessary and inevitable, and make Great Britain, by compulsion, bring into activity those resources, which her policy ought long ago to have rendered productive.

"The French revolution has created political changes and connections, which have greatly altered commerce; their effects we already feel beneficially on the one hand, with some inconvenience on the other; but the consequences are hardly yet to be foreseen. It is not improbable, but the commerce of the north of Europe will undergo as great a change as we have seen that transitory guest undergo in any other quarter in former times. The great attention paid by the Russian government to promote the trade of the Black Sea is only equal to the efforts of Peter the Great, for establishing that in the Baltic, by removing it from Archangel in the White Sea, to Petersburg.

"The Austrian Netherlands, which used to be the barrier of Holland, against the power and incursion of France, no longer exist; and as that barrier may probably never be reinstated, Holland can never resume her former commerce, confidence, security, and freedom; the vitals of it are destroyed by the alliance of her new neighbour, whose maxims and principles are unfavourable to the growth of so delicate and tender a plant as commerce.

"Whilst Holland remains subject to the control of France, its commerce will always be interrupted by the misunderstandings of the latter with any other power; and the navigation of that fine river, the Rhine, will be lost, to the general purposes of mercantile conveyance, to which the Dutch devoted it, as it will always be at the command of France.

"The next considerable river that has an extensive interior communication, is the Elbe, which can supply the loss of the Rhine in some measure; but we have seen that France, having Holland as an ally, the barrier, even to the Elbe is lost; and so long as Hanover remains connected with Great Britain, and Holland holds its present situation, the commerce, which might be carried on by the mouth of the Elbe, will always be liable to interruption, in any misunderstanding betwixt Great Britain and France.

"Unless the security of Hanover is by some means accomplished against

the encroachments of France, the trade of the Elbe will always be conducted on a very precarious footing; and, as this event is at present uncertain, it will be useful to the commercial interests of Great Britain to point out other channels by which they may securely carry on her trade at present, and likewise in future, whenever a similar obstruction shall occur.

"The French, violating the guarantee of the German empire, by occupying Hanover, naturally drove Great Britain to the necessity of blockading the rivers Elbe and Weser: at the first, commerce experienced a momentary check only; new channels, never thought of before, were then resorted to, attended, however, with inconvenience. Tonnage became the port of Hamburg, as well as did different ports in Holstein; the details of which will be given in a future chapter, when treating of the trade of the rivers Elbe, Weser, and Ems.

"As the ports of the two former rivers have at present no direct external mercantile intercourse, and that of the latter will ever be liable to interruption from the frequent regulations made in Holland, through the influence of France, it becomes necessary to point out the first secure channel that British shipping can approach with facility and advantage; and which has the most easy and extensive interior communication, free from the influence or interruption of France.

"In treating of the trade of Stettin, a very extensive avenue will be found into the interior of Germany, not only by the river Oder, but by different canals communicating with the Elbe, by which channels, great part of the interior commerce of Prussia and Germany was carried on through Hamburg, previous to the blockade of that river, which will shortly communicate even with the Danube.

"From Dantzic we shall see the trade to Austria and all the intermediate country, as well as from Königsburg and Riga for all the South East trade, through those fine regions, quite down to the Black Sea, Turkey, and even Asia. Under the respective heads will be found parti-

cular details for the information of every one.

"What will serve to shorten the voyage, and lessen the risk in carrying on the continental trade, by means of the Baltic and the channels described, is the canal of Rendsburg, through Holstein; it will save the circuitous, dangerous, and tedious voyage round the Skaw and the Cattegat, by having proper vessels adapted to pass through, as the Dutch and French now have.

"When these channels, and the facilities by the way of the Oder to the Elbe, and the numerous branches of interior communication to the western and southern boundaries of the German empire, come to be more generally known, the difficulties will not be found so insurmountable, nor the interruption so great as the French were inclined to believe. In one point they may be mistaken, for, by diverting trade into other channels, though rather more inconvenient, it will be amply compensated for, by possessing greater security; so that Great Britain may long enough maintain the contest, while she will never again have occasion to dread the inconvenience which France has now occasioned.

"To sum up the whole, the means of carrying on trade with the interior of the continent will be clearly pointed out, in any event less unfortunate than that of the conquest of Denmark and Prussia, by that same power, which has already ruined the Austrian Netherlands, and the Seven United Provinces."

The great importance of the subject, and the respectability of the work, induce us to defer the farther consideration of it to a future opportunity. [To be continued.]

LVIII. *An Essay on the PRINCIPLE and ORIGIN of SOVEREIGN POWER. By a DIGNITARY of the Church. Translated from the French. 8vo. pp. 300, 7s. boards. 1805. Hatchard.*

AMONGST the numerous vagaries, and wild theories of the present day, few have been creative

of greater mischief, or attended with more direful effects, than those which have been broached with respect to sovereign power: and what is more strange, except in the single instance of religion, none have been more eagerly sought out and embraced with less genuine knowledge of the subject. That the French should be tired of their rulers, and of the system by which they were governed, excites no surprise; but that there should have been in England men mad enough to embrace their levelling, absurd, and dissolute opinions, can be accounted for on no other principle, than by supposing them to be men of no fortune, or of broken fortunes, without a particle of industry in their composition, to raise them above their present condition, or to what they more ardently desire, the admiration of their fellow-subjects.

If this statement be true, and observation we think will bear us out in our assertions, and that, beyond the chance of rational contradiction except by such men and their adherents; if to this be adjoined the consideration that our presses were open to all, that a little fire may cause a great smoke; and that the bad passions of men will naturally and readily meet with similar ones in others; we shall be less at a loss to explain why the novelties which have been broached should have experienced so ready a reception; or that men devoid of all honesty should have laboured to disseminate such opinions with unceasing solicitude. Sapp the foundations of the common opinions of the people with respect to their duty towards God, say they, and they will then be fitted to assist us in our projects against the state, and we shall have no difficulty in persuading them, that governments (kings they say aloud) are of no importance, and

that sovereign power resides in the people, we shall then succeed in overturning thrones, and raise ourselves from our present nothingness. Such are the objects of reformers, and such the engines with which they attack the very foundations of opinions sanctioned by observation, by convenience, and by well proved experience; and of a government and laws founded on human nature, and on the necessity of the case, the only ties which bind men permanently together.

The treatise under consideration, is designed to examine the true foundation of sovereign power, and to fix and ascertain its limits: in doing this, like all men who think with any degree of justice, the author draws his arguments from revelation, and ascends to the history of man as there detailed, for proofs in support of his own opinion. If he designs his work to confirm people who think with tolerable rationality, but who are a little misled, he is certainly correct, and has both chosen his ground and disposed his forces well; but if he mean it to be of use to mankind, by reclaiming freethinkers, and supporters of the levelling, or what is us bad, the Bonapartian system, he has, in our opinion, mistaken both; neither his plan of attack, or his forces being deemed of any validity by his subtle enemies, who dread nothing worse than sound reasoning, and think nothing more destructive of their cause than common sense and divine revelation: having then the power of fighting or no, as they shall please, they know their cause to be too weak to bear the smallest attack from truth, or the slightest attack from such formidable adversaries. The translator too, has, perhaps, thrown a little obstruction in the way of the author, if the latter was his intention, by rendering, "*Un Grand Vicairé*," a Dignitary of the Church, because the opposers

of revelation are equally averse to church dignities, and will never attempt to read, what comes from a quarter which is scouted by their creed, and which it is their first object to destroy.

After an intelligent and well written preface by the translator, which besides a slight sketch of the work, gives some bold and judicious observations on the present political state of the world; on the designs, and deceptions of Bonaparte; of the means of which he avails himself to bring them to bear; and on those to be made use of by England, to counteract them, and to reduce him to order, he proceeds to the work itself. We regret that our limits prevent us from giving an abstract of the preface, but we highly approve of the doctrines which it contains, and earnestly recommend it to the notice of the public. It is too brief, however, to be of farther use than as a sketch of a more extensive work on the subject, which the translator appears not ill calculated to undertake.

Should this gentleman take the hint, we would recommend the following plan to his notice; viz. To give a clear account of the present state of the political world; of the policy now pursued by the various nations which compose it; and the probable result of the policy of all. A brief account of the strength of each, might be introduced in such a manner as the author should approve, but we think it might advantageously precede an exposition at large of the designs of Bonaparte, as it would naturally superinduce a few considerations on the probable success of his plans, particularly with regard to these kingdoms; it might include an account of these plans, and a developement of their operations in this nation, and their probable effects, if suffered to exist, and to be carried forward. It might

LIT. MAG. 1805.

terminate with a warning to Englishmen against the dangers to which **WE FEEL CERTAIN** they are at this time exposed; and with the means to be employed for the purpose of curbing the progress, counteracting the designs, and bringing to naught, the idle headed vagaries of French and English Bonapartian propagandists. A work on this subject, well written, built on information incontrovertible by surmise, or by the ridicule and artifice of these sons of illumination, is much wanted, if not absolutely necessary, in the present state of these kingdoms. And that more particularly, as we seem to be approaching to a crisis not less formidable, than that of 1792-3, and which though under a less imposing name, is not less replete with horror, to the well disposed and quiet inhabitants of this country. If such weapons as ridicule be in any shape opposed to these few observations, it will be a confirmation of our opinion.

The author commences his work with an introduction, in which he sketches out his design, and in a brief manner unfolds his plan: he has endeavoured to "ascertain whether civil society arose from a primitive convention between men independent of all restraint of authority; whether this state of natural Independence has ever existed; whether such a state is even possible:" and he draws the conclusion, that he "feels the most positive conviction, that this hypothesis is as false in principle, as it is pernicious in its consequences to the peace of nations, and to the security of empires." He goes on to say, "we shall prove in the first part of this work, 1st, that from this noxious and empoisoned source, spring systems the most destructive, both to society, and to the interests of religion. 2ndly, that the hypothesis, is not supported by any historical

facts: 3dly, that it is atheistical, reflecting on Divine Providence; and contrary to revealed truths: and 4thly, that it is repugnant to reason unenlightened by revelation.—It is not alone sufficient to overturn the imaginary foundation on which the sovereignty of the people is made to rest. Blinded by the fallacious illusions with which their pride has been cherished, it is not enough to tell them, that all authority is from God; it is necessary to convince them how it proceeds from this origin. We must point out to them, in the very ordinances of nature, the channel through which this authority emanates from a divine source; and we flatter ourselves that this object has been attained in the second part of this work."

Such are the designs of the author, and we think that he has fairly accomplished his undertaking, as we apprehend will be allowed, by every person who reasons on common observation, common experience, and common sense.

The basis of his system, however, is in our opinion, materially defective, because instead of arguing, that governments always arose under providence, and from the necessity of the case, he constantly keeps supposing them to arise from God alone, thus making that, a direct interposition of the Supreme Being, as it were personally, which is only conducted under his direction by human means. The author will not be so well received by Englishmen, because he perpetually calculates for the meridian of France.

He hardly seems to apprehend the existence, or at least to comprehend, a government its where functionaries are guided, and their duties prescribed by law, which is so happily enjoyed in this country.

The work is divided in two parts, each of which is subdivided into chapters, the FIRST PART contains a refutation of the hypothesis

of a state of nature, anterior to society, and of a primitive compact. The SECOND, is on the first, or the original state of society.

The first chapter is on the different states of nature, supposed by publicists, and in it the author explains and attacks the systems of Hobbs, Montesquieu, and Rousseau; he next compares the principles of the whole together, and concludes it with giving the opinions of some theologians, who admit an original social compact, the futile offspring of a fool, knave, or a madman, at any rate, not a man possessed of observation and thought; yet silly as it is, it is quite enough for the comprehensions of the mighty intelligences of the French nation.

The second chapter proves, that the hypothesis of a state of nature, and of primitive compact, is not supported by any historical facts. The author has perhaps given us enough to support his opinion here, but he might have made a much better thing of it.—The third, that the hypothesis of a state of nature, anterior to society, is atheistical; reflects on Providence, and is contrary to revealed truths. This chapter also includes a section, combating the opinion of the publicists, that the origin of property is irreconcilable with revelation.

The fourth and last chapter of this part attempts to prove that reason alone is armed and guarded against the supposition of a state of nature, and of a primitive compact. The author is correct here as far as he goes, but he is not profound.

The SECOND PART treats on the first or the original state of society, and in it the author's object is to prove, 1st, that an original authority, emanating from the Deity, has governed the world in its infancy, and that this was the patriarchal power, and paternal authority; 2dly, that political governments have arisen from these delegated powers; 3dly,

that such powers always operating, it is by their means, particularly, that God maintains and upholds political institutions; and 4thly, that after revolutions that change the constitution of empires, the paternal and patriarchal powers are still the instrument and natural means of which Providence avails itself, in substituting, in a gradual and successive manner, in lieu of the subverted government, those rights and privileges composing the power of the new government.

In support of these propositions, the author treats separately on the government of nature, where he judiciously concludes that all beginnings of power were paternal or patriarchal, a mode of government most consonant with common experience, setting aside all other considerations. The *second chapter*, which is on the formation of political governments, is divided into three sections; the first of which is on the junction of several societies, forced to reunite from motives of necessity: the second, on the right of conquest: and the third inquires, whether we can admit of a social compact between chiefs of many independent societies.

The *third chapter* is on the preserving principle of governments, and includes a section on the revolution which effected itself in the spirit of political governments, at the establishment of the christian religion.

The *fourth* is on the right of sovereignty arising from prescription, and the *conclusion* is a fair summary of the whole. A few remarks by the author, and an extensive appendix by the translator, close the work.

Though we now and then find a little fault with this treatise, we think it on the whole, however, not an injudicious attempt to ascertain the origin of sovereign power, and though not profound, it will often be found satisfactory. We occasionally discover

too great a tendency to high church principles, and to maintain the divine right of kings; but both are to be expected from a Frenchman, and a Roman Catholic dignitary, and they are less prominent by being moderate.

In his reasonings, as we said before, he will be less acceptable to Englishmen, because his calculations are generally made for the meridian of France: whereas had he known the constitution of this nation, he would have perceived that in its ancient purity it more nearly approaches to the nature of a government founded on individual justice, religious considerations out of the question, than he supposes possible, or any other on the face of the earth.

The translation has been tolerably well executed, but we have to complain of a little frenchification, in the length and arrangement of the sentences; both of which are destructive of connected reasoning, and well adapted to the abrupt mode of writing and thinking so prevalent amongst the French, but which would hardly be tolerated in an English writer. K.

LVII. COMMERCIAL ARITHMETIC; with an Appendix on Algebraic Equations; being an Introduction to the Elements of Commerce. By CHRISTOPHER DUBOIS. 12mo. 6s. bds. Symonds.

IT is a circumstance affording much ground of complaint that our common treatises on arithmetic, and the method of teaching it, in common use, are neither of them well adapted to the purposes for which they are intended; because our young men in general come from school with an imperfect knowledge of its common rules, with still less knowledge of the fundamental principles on which they are built, and what

is worse, with a degree of disgust acquired from its crabbed and mysterious appearance at school, which prevents them from imagining its acquirement to be easy, or from attempting to conquer the difficulties in which it appears to be enveloped.

Mr. Dubost has endeavoured to do away all these objections against arithmetic in general, with a view, more particularly, to the assistance of the young merchant: we only recollect to have seen one elementary treatise on arithmetic, written on this plan, the name of its author we forget, but it was directed to no particular department. The one under consideration, therefore, has, besides being better executed as far as it goes, the manifest advantage of the other in being adapted to mercantile concerns, and consequently having a better claim on the attention of those for whom it is intended.

With the view, then, of drawing young men from supineness, and of facilitating their progress in knowledge so useful and necessary, the author has given his rules with great perspicuity, and illustrated them by reducing them to practice: or, more properly speaking, he incorporates his rules and practice for the better illustration of both. Hence his work exhibits a continued series of reasoning, rather than a lean crabbed treatise, a science rendered more crabbed by the improper methods of teaching it at present adopted in schools. It is true that plain as it is, it will require some little attention, and will not be read quite so pleasantly as a novel; nevertheless, the fundamental principles, and the practice of arithmetic, will be found simple and easy of comprehension. Equation of exchanges, which old Malachy Postlethwayte says, ought to be well enough understood to be practised on 'Change, with a pencil on the thumb nail, forms a particular and useful department of the author's attention, and he has made

a separate rule of it, in addition to those commonly laid down in school books; he has also adjoined a useful sketch of the first principles of algebra, and has taken much pains with explaining terms which form no small obstacle in the way of boys at school, where their teachers are often too idle, and in the country commonly too illiterate to reduce to a level with their capacities. The writer of this article to this hour remembers, and that with the most painful sensation, the disgust which he experienced when learning the common rules of arithmetic. As an elementary work, therefore, he thinks *Commercial Arithmetic*, on the whole, to be well worthy the attention of those for whom it is particularly intended, and highly deserving of being introduced into our schools, the country ones in particular. O.

LVIII. MEMOIRS OF MARMONTTEL, written by himself: containing his literary and political Life, and Anecdotes of the principal Characters of the eighteenth Century. 4 vols. 12mo. pp. about 400 each. boards. Murray.

THERE are, perhaps, few admirers of biography, who do not derive more or less pleasure and information from Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, it having been, though a continued series of table talk, the letters excepted, a constant favorite of the public, a sure sign of its containing many excellencies, and that all readers find something to their taste. Whether it be that Johnson seldom uttered any thing but what possessed solidity, that his biographer carefully excluded his weaknesses from the sight of his reader, or from the admiration universally bestowed on him by Boswell, few will deny but his work is both useful and entertaining, and that it is

one of the best pieces of literary biography in the English language.

Admired as Johnson was in England, yet he was not held in less estimation, than the writer of the memoirs under consideration, was in France. The comparative solidity of the one, and the other, were not less dissimilar than the character of their respective nations, and the bulk of the people prefer light to solid reading; yet we are tempted to think the life of Johnson will, generally speaking, be preferred to that of Marmontel, he being often, if not commonly, far too trifling, except for the reader of a circulating library. He has written his life with all the volatility and diffuseness of a Frenchman, and with all the egotism incident to age: hence his work will only be fitted to readers who devour page after page, for the mere gratification of their imaginations: it was expected, we believe, with some impatience by the literary world, but we are afraid that it will cause some degree of disappointment.

If we attempt to give a general character of the memoirs of Marmontel, we apprehend that its faults will often overbalance its excellencies; but we think the following to be pretty just. Of the latter, the principal will be found to consist in the facility and liveliness with which it is written, and the interest which the author gives to the common incidents of life; this circumstance will hide a multitude of faults amongst light readers, and counterbalance all opposite considerations. As a kind of table-talk too it will often be found entertaining, but will hardly be perused more than once by the grave reader; the more volatile and superficial one may admire it as we have hinted above, but bookselling considerations apart, such favour is no great recommendation to any work. It becomes a little more respectable in its materials, as the au-

thor approaches towards the conclusion of his life, and after he quits the details of his acquaintance and connection with the silly literary females, who appear only to have been valued for the adulation they offered him, and for convenience. The same spirit, however, runs through the whole, and whether reading his plays at Madame Harene's, detailing the administration of Brienne, or the events connected with the death of Louis XVI. it is still Marmontel.

Another material fault to be found in this work, and which will materially sink it in the estimation of thinking men, is the importance given to trifles. When he is in danger of being whipped, he raises the school in rebellion, and gets his own class to swear before an altar, that they would then terminate their labours, so as to elude their master's just authority, and closes the whole with chanting a *Te Deum* on the occasion, thus sanctioning a disgraceful act by the farcical straining of a religious ceremony, and which the teachers wanted fortitude enough to condemn. When one of his aunts embroils him, with his favourite female, though yet a youth, he beats his head against the wall, till his features are hardly distinguishable; shewing in the first instance, his cowardice, pride, and folly, and in the last, the headstrong slave to his passions. Were these the whole of such examples, they might be tolerated, but the views of life are often neither just nor satisfactory to the man of experience; and may be of far more mischievous influence on the mind of the juvenile reader, than those contained in novels, because they come with the more imposing air of truth, whilst the others are known to be fictitious, even to the most inexperienced of the novel struck.

The translation is executed miserably in the extreme, it being English

frenchified, or French anglicised throughout; the translator either having run over it at full speed, or being in possession of few of the talents requisite to the task. Another fault and we have done, the diffuseness of the original has been transfused into the English text, whereas it was fully within the power of the translator to remedy that defect, by comprising it into half the number of volumes. Had he done this, and judiciously pruned off all the luxuries, which could well have been spared, he would have produced a highly entertaining work, and one which would have long maintained its ground in the reader's estimation. On the whole, however, the part of it referring to the revolution, is not devoid of interest, and will be perused with attention, and many people may think us too severe in our opinion: possibly we are so.

We shall give our readers an account of that magnificent exploit, the attack on and capture of the Bastille; it is rather long, but if Marmontel be worthy of credit, it will betray many strong symptoms of cowardice, and a multitude of crimes on the part of the sovereign people, instigated by those off-scouring of the earth, the French Jacobins.

"This resolution appeared to be sudden and unexpected among the people. But it was premeditated in the council of the chiefs of the revolution. The bastille, as a state prison, had always been odious on account of the iniquitous use to which the despotism of ministers had applied it under preceding reigns; and, as a fortress, it was formidable, particularly to those populous and murderous faubourgs which its walls commanded, and which, in their riots, saw themselves under the fire of the cannon of its towers. To agitate these multitudes at its will, and make them act boldly, the republican faction then ardently desired that they might be rid of this imposing object. Honest men, even

the most peaceful and most enlightened, wished too that the bastille might be destroyed, because they hated the despotism of which it was the bulwark; and in this wish they consulted their personal security more than their real safety; for the despotism of license is a thousand times more dreadful than that of authority, and the unbridled populace is the most cruel of tyrants. The bastille then should not have been destroyed, but its keys should have been deposited in the sanctuary of the laws.

"The court thought it impregnable; it would have been so, or its attack and siege would have cost rivers of blood, if it had been defended; but the man to whom the guard of it was confided, the Marquis de Launay, would not, or dared not, or could not use the means he had of rendering its resistance murderous; and this populace that so vilely assassinated him, owed him thanks and praises.

"De Launay had expected to intimidate the crowd; but it is evident that he wished to spare it. He had fifteen pieces of cannon on the towers; and whatever calumny may have said, to palliate the crime of his assassination, not one single cannon shot was fired from these towers. There were besides, in the interior of the castle, three cannon loaded with case shot, pointed in front of the draw-bridge. These would have made great slaughter at the moment when the people came pouring in crowds into the first court; he fired but one, and that but once. He was provided with fire arms of every kind, with six hundred muskets, twelve rampart muskets carrying balls of a pound and a half, and four hundred *biscuiens*. He had procured from the arsenal abundance of ammunition, bullets, fifteen thousand cartridges, and twenty thousand pounds of powder. In fine, he had collected on the two towers of the draw-bridge a mass of stones and broken iron, in order to crush the besiegers if they should advance to the foot of the walls. But in all these preparations to sustain a siege, he had forgotten provisions; and shut up in his castle with eighty invalids, thirty-two Swiss soldiers and

his staff, all the store he had on the day of the attack consisted of two sacks of flour and a little rice; a proof that all the rest was only to inspire terror.

"The small number of Swiss soldiers that had been sent to him, were sure men and well disposed to defend themselves; the invalids were not so, and he must have known that; but at least he ought not to have exposed them to the fear of dying for hunger. Too inferior to his situation, and in that stupor with which the presence of danger strikes a weak mind, he looked on it with a steadfast but troubled eye; and rather motionless with astonishment than with resolution. Unhappily, not a man in the council supplied the foresight that he wanted.

"To intoxicate the people with this first success, the attack and capture of the bastille have been extravagantly extolled as an exploit. The following is the account of this conquest, which I have learned from the very mouth of him who was proclaimed and borne in triumph as the conductor of the enterprize, and as its hero.

"The Bastille," said the brave Elie to me, "was not taken by main strength. It surrendered even before it was attacked. It surrendered on the promise that I gave, upon the honour of a French officer, and on the part of the people, that not a man should be hurt if the fortress surrendered." This is the simple fact, and such as Elie attests it to me. The following details of it are written, as he dictates.

"The fore-courts of the bastille had been abandoned. Some determined men having dared to break the chains of the draw-bridge which barred the entrance into the first court, the people rushed in there in crowds; and deaf to the voice of the soldiers who, from the tops of the towers, forbore to fire on them, and cried out to them to retire, they persisted in advancing toward the walls of the castle. It was then that they were fired upon by the soldiers; and being put to flight, they saved themselves under the covert of the fore-courts. One killed, and a few wounded, spread terror even to the town-hall; multitudes came to

demand urgently, in the name of the people, that deputations might be resorted to, in order to stop the carnage. Two of these deputations arrived, one by the arsenal, and the other by the side of the faubourg Saint-Antoine. 'Advance,' cried the invalids to them from the tops of the towers, 'we will not fire on you; advance with your flag. The governor is going down, the castle bridge will be let down in order to introduce you, and we will give hostages.' The white flag was already hoisted on the towers, and the soldiers held their arms inverted in sign of peace. But neither of the deputations dared to advance so far as the last fore-court. At the same time, the crowd was pressing toward the draw-bridge and firing from all sides. The besieged then had reason to think that these appearances of deputation were but a trick to surprise them; and after having cried in vain to the people not to advance, they found themselves obliged to fire in their turn.

"The people, repulsed a second time, and furious at seeing some of their own body fall under the fire of the fortress, took that revenge in which it usually indulges. The barracks and shops of the fore-court were pillaged; the house of the governor was delivered to the flames. The firing of one cannon, loaded with case shot, and a discharge of musketry, had driven back this crowd of robbers and incendiaries; when at the head of a dozen brave citizens, Elie, advancing to the very edge of the ditch, cried out to the besieged to surrender, promising that not a man should be hurt. He then perceived a hand extended through an opening in a part of the draw-bridge and presenting to him a note. This note was received by means of a plank that was held over the ditch; it was written in these words: "We have twenty thousand pounds of powder. We will blow up the castle if you do not accept our capitulation. Signed De Launay."

"Elie, after having read the note, cried out that he accepted it; and, on the part of the fort, all hostilities ceased. However, De Launay, before he gave himself up to the people, wished that the capitulation

lation should be ratified and signed at the town hall, and that to secure his own safety and that of his soldiers, an imposing guard should receive and protect them. But the unfortunate invalids, thinking to hasten their deliverance, did violence to the governor, by crying out from the court, *the Bastille surrenders.*

"It was then that De Launay, seizing the match of a cannon, threatened to go and set fire to the powder magazine; and perhaps he was firmly resolved to do it. The centinels who guarded the magazine presented to him their bayonets; and in spite of himself, without further precaution or delay, he saw himself forced to surrender.

"The little draw-bridge of the fort being first opened, Elie entered with his companions, all brave and honourable men, and fully determined to keep his word. On seeing him, the governor went up to him, embraced him, and presented him his sword, with the keys of the bastille.

"I refused his sword," said Elie to me, "and took only the keys." His companions received the staff and the officers of the garrison with the same cordiality, swearing to serve them as a guard and defence; but they swore in vain.

"As soon as the great bridge was let down (and it is not known by what hand that was done) the people rushed into the court of the castle, and full of fury, seized on the troop of invalids. The Swiss who were dressed only in linen frocks, escaped among the crowd, all the rest were arrested. Elie, and the honest men who had entered first with him, exerted all their efforts to tear from the hands of the people the victims which they themselves had delivered to it. But ferocity held obstinately attached to its prey. Several of these soldiers, whose lives had been promised them, were assassinated; others were dragged like slaves through the streets of Paris. Twenty-two were brought to the Gréve, and, after humiliations and inhuman treatment, they had the affliction of seeing two of their comrades hung. When they were presented at the town-hall, a furious madman said to them: "You

have fired on your fellow-citizens; you deserve to be hung; and you shall be so presently." Fortunately the French guards interceded for their pardon; the people suffered itself to be persuaded. But it was without pity for the officers of the garrison. De Launay, torn from the arms of those who wished to save him, had his head cut off under the walls of the town-hall. In the midst of his assassins, he defended his life with the courage of despair; but he fell under their number. Delorme Salbrai, his major, was murdered in the same manner. The adjutant, Mirai, had been so, near the bastille. Pernon, an old lieutenant of the invalids, was assassinated on the wharf Saint-Paul, as he was going to the hall. Another lieutenant, Caron, was covered with wounds. The head of the Marquis de Launay was carried about Paris by this same populace that he would have crushed, had he not been moved to pity.

"Such were the exploits of those who have since been called the heroes and conquerors of the bastille. On the 14th of July 1789, about eleven o'clock in the morning, the people had assembled before it; at forty minutes after four it had surrendered. At half an hour after six the head of the governor was carried in triumph to the *Palais-Royal*. Among the number of conquerors, which has been said to amount to eight hundred, many people have been mentioned who had not even approached the castle."

In looking at the various and momentous events of this revolution, who is not constrained to cry, there is, a God that ruleth in the earth?

Ω.

LIX. *The TEMPLE of FLORA, or GARDEN of NATURE, being thirty picturesque, botanical, coloured Plates, of the New Illustration of the Sexual System of Linnæus; also the Philosophy of Botany, or Botanical and Philosophical Extracts, including a new Illustration of the Sexual*

System of Linnaus. By Dr. THORNTON, 28 Parts at 25 Shillings. Publishers: Dr. Thornton, No. 1, Hyde Street; and Symonds, Paternoster Row.

THESE are in fact two works distinct from each other, yet some way connected. The object of the *Philosophy of Botany*, is to collect all the scattered discoveries relative to that science, and to give the completest system of botany hitherto published, with a new illustration of the sexual system. The *Temple of Flora* is designed as the fulfilment of the views of the philosophy of botany, as far as relates to the new illustration of the sexual system, and contains several flowers which are selected for that purpose. As the Temple of Flora is intended to be the most accurate, superb, and beautiful work, ever published in any country to illustrate the sexual system, the choice has been judiciously made of the richest flowers, some of them exceedingly rare, and they are made truly picturesque, each having appropriate back grounds. We will first examine this very splendid part, which has excited the attention and admiration of all Europe. The Temple of Flora, or Garden of Nature, which is on the largest paper, opens with the title occupying two sheets, written by the celebrated penman, Tomkins, and engraved by the late Mr. Vincent. This title engaged the utmost attention of both of these ingenious men. The former presented his labours without reward for this national work, and the latter was often heard to declare, that this writing of Tomkins was his *chef d'œuvre*, and he wished for no other monument of his own skill, than his name affixed to the penmanship here exhibited. The Vignette attached is a most brilliant thought, and executed in a very superior manner.

LIT. MAG. 1805.

A highly embellished temple forms the back ground, and Flora is in her car, conducted to it, by four Cupids, in the shape of Cupids, Spring leads the van, and the wreath by which the car of the goddess is conducted, has the flowers peculiar to each season. Winter leads the rear in storms and tempests. The drawing is the production of Burney, and the engraving is by Tomkins, pupil of Bartolozzi, engraver to the king, in the best style of the art. Seldom does the mere table of contents exhibit any very striking features; but here also Tomkins and Vincent have been employed, and every grace and beauty is given to the splendid page. The grandeur of these several titles has much eclipsed all former works, contented usually with one, but to our no small surprise, we find also another, a fourth production from Tomkins and Vincent, the dedication to her Majesty, by permission, the language of which is highly complimentary, without fulsome adulation, and strictly true*. The penmanship also here is admirable. The portrait of her Majesty by Sir William Beechey, R.A. surrounded by Cupids, designed by Smirk, R.A. and the whole engraved by Bartolozzi, probably may be intended to accompany this dedication. As there is a print of the queen lately published from the same picture, the taste and judgment of Dr. Thornton is here fully evinced. The queen in that picture, is exhibited with a veil, walking in the garden at Frogmore, with a little dog by her side. In this magnificent print the queen has her hair as usually dressed in

* These plates are humbly inscribed to her most gracious majesty, the bright example of conjugal fidelity and maternal tenderness, patroness of botany, and of the fine arts.

with a feather of diamonds on her head, a tiara of diamonds, and a necklace of the same, with a locket, containing the king's picture, a diamond girdle, &c. her Majesty is represented as majesty ought to be depicted, unless it be for the private apartments of some of her nearer relatives. The likeness is equally, as in the other, preserved, and the whole has a most pleasing effect. It is without doubt the best and most faithful representation of her Majesty that has been yet published. After this magnificent entrée, which of itself would make a book of the finest penmanship, appears the frontispiece, the joint production of Russel, R. A. and Opie, R. A. The taste and judgment of Dr. Thornton here again becomes conspicuous by the choice of the artists, and the device of the picture in honour of Linnæus. The bust of this great naturalist is placed in a garden, and the likeness is from a picture in the possession of the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, which was lent for this occasion, with a generous liberality worthy of public notice and respect. The bust is supposed to be raised in honour of Linnæus, which was done by order of the king of Sweden, and the proper emblematic deities attend upon this occasion. *Æsculapius*, to shew the advantages derived to physic; *Ceres*, as denoting the advancement of agriculture, by the labours of Linnæus; and *Flora*, in the cultivation of flowers; and *Cupid* writes on the pedestal in honour of the contriver of the sexual system. A zephyr above is introduced to denote Spring, pouring flowers over the bust. The airy figure of *Flora*, kneeling, with a wreath in her hand, is together with *Cupid*, and the bust, the production of Russel, and is his very best performance, and the figure of *Æsculapius* and *Ceres*, is from the grand and masterly pencil of Opie. This conjunction of se-

parate excellencies has produced a *tout ensemble*, that confers the highest honour on modern art. As each plate has with its description some accompanying verses, the following are from the pen of a gentleman, whose name is already before the public, as the translator of the admired Zimmerman.

" I. *Flora, Æsculapius, Ceres, and Cupid, honouring the bust of Linnæus. By Opie, R. A. and Russel, R. A.*

I.

" Sacred to great Linnæus' honour'd name,
A laurel grove perpetuates his fame,
Where deck'd in honest pride by
Sculpture's hand,
See Admiration * bids his image stand,
The foremost of the human race to rise,
(Nor servile flattery this, nor base disguise)
Who, now retiring, leaves the hal-
low'd place,
When Sol's bright car has run its daily race,
And gold-fring'd pearly clouds dis-
solve away,
And evening veils the glaring face of day.
Then, first, the sprightly, subtle boy,
Beauty's offspring, winged Love,
Bounding on in wanton joy,
Springs forward to the laurel grove,
And grateful traces on the stone
In golden lines his tribute gay †,
Proud thus indelibly to own
The triumphs of his tender sway.

* In allusion to the bust of Linnæus, which was first raised in the botanic garden of Upsal, afterwards at Edinburgh by the botanical Professor.

Linnæo Posuit J. Hope, as was also done in the year 1790, in the Botanic Garden at Paris, by a decree of the National Assembly.

† The lines which *Cupid* writes on the pedestal are as follow:

All animated Nature owns my sway,
Earth, sea, and air, my potent laws obey,

II.

"Light and fantastic, elegantly free,
 Next Flora, blue-ey'd goddess, jocund, see,
 In snow-white vesture, half-pellucid, drest,
 Through whose thin folds, by Zephyrus caress'd,
 A form celestial presses to the sight
 In graceful symmetry. As Venus bright
 She moves, that lively goddess of desire!
 But looks the vestal maid to check the fire,
 And breathes the rapturous delight of sense,
 And smiles with beaming grace of innocence.
 She weaves her varied wreath
 In artless, sweet simplicity,
 While every flower her feet beneath
 Springs upward to felicity,
 Happy if pluck'd by Flora's hand,
 Their sev'ral tints, by skill when wrought,
 Of sweets will form a blooming band;
 A garland to the sage she brought.

III.

"Then nut-brown Ceres, as she walks along,
 Trilling in rustic phrase her ev'ning song,
 When from the plenteous harvest she returns,
 Bearing the yellow wealth which labour earns,
 Quick from the summit of the hill she spies
 The honour'd bust, and soon a wreath she ties,
 A golden chaplet, choice reward of heaven!
 Unfading gift to mortals rarely given,
 And hastes away to join the lovely pair,
 And pay with gratitude her homage there.

And thou, divine Linnæus, trac'd my reign
 O'er trees, and shrubs, and Flora's beauteous train,
 Prov'd them obedient to my soft controul,
 And gaily breathe an aromatic soul.
 Charlotte Lennox.

By the sparkling of her eye,
 Of the darkest hazel hue;
 By her forehead arch'd high,
 And tawny freckles not a few,
 The village maid is clearly seen,
 Flush'd in ruddy glow of health,
 Beauteous goddess of the plain,
 Fruitful source of all our wealth.

IV.

"Last, reverend Age with sober step appears,
 And perfect praise to great Linnæus rears;
 For lo! where sapient Æsculapius nigh
 Lifts with delight the warm enrap-tur'd eye,
 And owns the debt his science owes to thee,
 Great Northern Genius, Sire of Botany!
 The knotty staff, the twining serpent, tell
 Apollo's favour'd son, denoting well
 The difficulties, and the cunning art
 Requir'd to parry Death's envenom'd dart.
 Thus hoary Wisdom * here combines
 With Beauty †, Usefulness ‡, and Love §,
 And each their proper homage joins,
 Unrival'd Swede! thy worth to prove.
 Thus manly Admiration stands,
 And Cupid writes immortal fame,
 While Females use with lavish hands
 Their flowers in honour of thy name.

Samuel Hull Wilcock."

The verses descriptive of this picture are very good, considering the difficulty of the subject, and the necessary confinement of the ideas and expressions of the poet, and has met, as we are informed, with the approbation of the late Dr. Darwin, who was so pleased with the plan and execution of this work, that he publicly

* Æsculapius.

† Flora.

‡ Ceres.

§ Cupid.

says in his *Phytologia*, "I beg leave to recommend to the public the superb picturesque botanical coloured plates of Dr. Thornton's Temple of Flora, which I suppose have no equal."

The next plate announced, but not yet published, is the portrait of Linnæus, embellished with the Linnæa. This is not the same as the one forming the bust from Sir Joseph Banks's picture, but is from an original painting by Hallman, a pupil of Linnæus, in the possession of Aylmer Bourke Lambert, esq. vice-president of the Linnæan society, esteemed an admirable likeness, and never before engraved from. The engraving is admirably executed by Holt. The embellishment is the Linnæa surrounding the portrait, and Fame is supporting it, with Cupids in the air, gracefully conveying a festoon, containing the principal flowers of the sexual system, by Howard, R. A.

Besides these two elegant engravings of Linnæus, there is a third, where Linnæus is painted at full length in his Lapland dress. The history of this piece is extremely curious. After Linnæus had returned from England to Clifford, laden with numerous presents from the gardens of Oxford, under the illustrious professor Dillenius, and that of the celebrated hortulist Miller, he formed a club, consisting of the most distinguished characters in Holland, where each, once a week, at his own house, was to discourse on subjects most congenial to their turn. Among these was Gronovius, a name never to be forgot, whom Linnæus assisted in his *Flora Virginica*, and who paid the expences, and published for Linnæus the *Systema Naturæ*, and in gratitude for the aids received, and in admiration of the man, Gronovius obtained Hoffman, the most distinguished artist of his time, to paint a picture of Linnæus in his Lapland dress. The dress is extremely grotesque, and he holds the magic drum

in his left hand, which probably he converted into a reservoir for specimens. He has no shirt on: but what distinguishes the picture extremely, and is a trait in the character of Linnæus, he has on his doctoral cap, proud of having lately taken out his degree in phylic. This picture belonged to the family of Gronovius, and from vicissitudes in life they became poor, and were willing to part with an old friend of a deceased relative at an easy price. A speculator, named Humphries, who keeps a shop of curiosities in Coventry-street, purchased it, and brought it over to England, and caused an engraving of it, and the print is to be found in the Linnæan society, and a few were sold, but not enough to indemnify the projector. This picture was then rolled up, and consigned to moulder in a garret, and there lay for years. No one inquired after, or seemed to know of this picture, when Dr. Thornton, who is indefatigable in his researches, penetrated the room of lumber, and saw to his utter astonishment one of the most characteristic and finest paintings in the world. The reader will conjecture he did not come away without it, and to secure the whole he has since bought the plate engraved from it, so that the present engraving is much enhanced in value. We mention this anecdote the more willingly, as there has lately appeared a view of the life and writings of Linnæus, by Dr. Maton, who although one of the vice-presidents of the Linnæan society, has given a very lame history of this invaluable picture, the only representation of Linnæus, when in the *prime of life*, at which period, indeed, he had actually formed his immortal sexual system.

Dr. Maton's account is:—"But, all the portraits we have hitherto mentioned represent our author as he appeared when *far advanced in years*. There is a picture, *said to be* in the possession of Dr. Thornton, which

was taken when he was a *very young man*, and which originally belonged to Mr. Clifford. This is a whole length, representing him in his Lapland dress: and it has been engraved in mezzotinto by an artist in London. The painter's name was Hoffman."

T.

[To be continued.]

LX. INTERESTING CONVERSATIONS on Moral and Religious Subjects, interspersed with Narratives. By a Lady. 8vo. pp. 268. boards. Williams and Smith.

THERE are perhaps few surer indications of the speedy approach of the Redeemer's kingdom, than those manifested by the bustle concerning religious subjects, which has taken place within the last seventy years in the united kingdoms and in other parts of the world: and it must afford no small pleasure to his humble followers, to observe in the signs of the times, such numerous demonstrations of the fulfilment of those prophecies, which promise that they shall sing "the Lord God omnipotent reigneth;" and that his dominion shall extend from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

Amongst many other indications of this glorious event, one of the most prominent, is the number of treatises which daily issue from our presses, with the express view of explaining, illustrating, and enforcing, or perhaps more properly speaking, of making known, and spreading abroad the knowledge of the Bible, and of its simple and splendid truths, both of which have been miserably neglected and despised, during the irruptions of antisocialism, and atheism, and jacobinism. Hence printing, which on its first discovery shook down and destroyed many of the strong holds of popery, still kindly lends its aid to the destruction of the works of atheism;

and makes some atonement for the licentiousness with which we have been inundated within the last fifteen years.

Of the kind above mentioned, is the little work under consideration, and though it offers no claims to elegance of diction, to high-flown sentiments, or to any of the grandeurs of modern writing; yet it has claims, many claims, on our most serious attention, and those of a nature to be rejected at our peril, and to which it is consequently every man's duty to attend; from the sagacious deistico-atheist, who worships a God of his own creating, and in a way most consonant to the indulgence of his own passions, to the humble but honest follower of Bible christianity.

Intrinsically considered, it is no way superior to hundreds of treatises, written on similar principles, and with a similar design; and it is chiefly in opposition to cold theological ones, destitute of every thing but acuteness respecting subtleties, which, like the good man's horse, took much catching, and was worth nothing when caught, that we recommend it. The writer's object has been to illustrate and enforce the plain principles of the Bible, entirely devoid of the distinctions of scholiasts, those darkeners of counsel, who multiply words without knowledge, instead of attending to its truths in simplicity of heart: and in this point of view it is superior to thousands, nay, tens of thousands of the volumes, the productions of men, who think themselves to have done a mighty thing if they feebly defend the outworks of Christianity, whilst its enemies are rioting in the innermost recesses of the citadel.

To pass over this and similar treatises then with cold praise, when atheism stalks abroad in our streets, if not in our temples; to speak of it as being well written, without dwelling on and pointing out the lucid

manner in which it treats on religious subjects, and to say we recommend it to the notice of our readers, when it ought to be forced into the hands of young people; would be to desert our office, as reviewers, and join the multitudinous, but not formidable host of the adversaries of revelation. To pass over this, when vice and folly every where predominate, when to take leave of the evidence of our senses and reason, is accounted rational, to dispute what our fathers believed, is wisdom, and to act directly opposite to the principles of the Bible, is to shew marks of an enlightened understanding; would be a complete dereliction of every principle which can rationally be accounted praiseworthy and honourable amongst good men, and acceptable in the sight of God.

It professes to be the work of a lady; if so, we are happy to find one who has escaped the fripperies and follies of the present modes of education, and who has dared to demonstrate that all females are not futile, and unworthy of the good opinion of thinking men. We fancy, however, that something more masculine is commonly apparent in it, as it displays much precision in the arrangement of its thoughts, some skill in repelling hacknied, but subtle objections, and a uniform neatness of language throughout. One objection, however, and that a serious one, may be made against treatises

written with views similar to the one under consideration, and that is, that they seem to compromise the dignity and seriousness of divine revelation, which in our opinion ought always to maintain its claim to the most profound reverence and admiration of mankind; and not to descend to entrap them, as it were, by something like a novel, a tale, or conversations. We would, however, infinitely prefer putting such treatises into the hands of young people, before sage and profound evidences of Christianity, which are only addressed to the understanding, whilst the former are calculated to reach the heart. Young minds may, under Divine Providence, catch fire from the first, but it is rare that much good is done by the last. Perhaps we may be condemning too much in the lump, and it may with justice be urged, that if you have many sorts of enemies to attack, it is well to raise up breast-works amongst all, to fight each with his own weapons; and when any are subdued, to refer them to the great centre of all divine knowledge and wisdom, the Bible. On the whole, we think that the little work under consideration is well worthy the notice of parents, as it may be of some use by inducing a habit of reading, and may awaken a degree of inquiry in the minds of their children, which may eventually be of lasting and eternal benefit. K.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

Under this Head it is intended to insert, in the MONTHLY EPITOME and LITERARY MAGAZINE, a short Account and Character of the principal Books recently published.

AGRICULTURE.

MR. ARTHUR YOUNG has recently presented the English Agriculturist with "A General View

of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk." The name of Arthur Young is a certain passport to an extensive circulation of whatever con-

cerns the farming-interests of these kingdoms, and he has accordingly wrote and talked himself into great fame; and sometimes apparently without good foundation, for we cannot help thinking, judging of him from his works, as he has presented himself before the public, that he savours of as much quackery in his favourite pursuits, as some more conspicuous medical ones have done in theirs, and that the name of Young, in the agricultural world, that is, among practical farmers, is not of more value than Dr. Brodum's in the college of physicians. The *View of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk* is one of those productions, that in detailing facts as they are practised by experienced farmers, will certainly be of value, such as the Norfolk mode of managing arable land; on the improvements in the county under the heads drainage, irrigation, manuring, paring and burning, and embanking; and on farming utensils; but in matters of opinion, of science, so far as relates to his subject, and of every thing else, it will be found a superficial, tinselly volume.

ANTIQUITIES.

The first volume, in folio, of an elaborate work, entitled "*The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*," by the late Rev. Owen Manning, and continued to the present time by Wm. Bray, esq. F. S. A. has lately made its appearance. This is one of the few county histories, which displays both accuracy of detail and laborious research, not only in topographical or local history, but also in biographical literature, it is extremely interesting, and mostly in original articles: indeed the school, in which this volume has been compiled, is so rich in every branch of learning that has relation to our national antiquities, either local or general, that when we mention the name of Gough, as one of the assistants in this work, we trust

that our readers will be perfectly able to estimate the value of the history of the county of Surrey. This volume is embellished with several plates, chiefly engraved by Barrie, from original drawings. It also contains a fac simile, engraved on copper, of the whole of that venerable record, Domesday Book, that relates to this county.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"*Light Reading at Leisure Hours*" will be found an extremely interesting work; it contains a great deal of literary anecdote, which is rendered very agreeable by the pleasant manner the writer has of detailing it. There are a few strokes relating to some recent *manufacture* in the republic of letters, that shew the author knows how to wield *edge tools* with some effect.

POETRY.

"*Sonnets and other Poems*," by Mrs. Finch, will be found a very pleasing collection, which the fair authoress has addressed to her children. The sonnets are formed on the model of Mrs. Charlotte Smith, who is justly celebrated for her writings in this branch of poetry, and are very little inferior to those of that lady. The tales at the end of this volume are of an extremely amusing nature, and we doubt not the whole will gratify those readers who are partial to this sort of trifles.

"*The Progress of Refinement*," an allegorical poem by the Rev. M. Gillespie, is the work of an author possessing considerable talents; but in the instance before us, evidently misapplied. If the title had been "*The Progress of British Refinement*," it would have been more appropriate, for that is more the subject of the poem, than what the reader may expect to find from the general tenor of the title page, as given by the author, and the allegory itself is pursued throughout, so as not to excite much interest.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

HISTORY of ASTRONOMY for 1804,
by DE LA LANDE.*Continued from Page 425.*

WHILST Goldbach is thus labouring to establish astronomy at Moscow, Messrs. Schubert and Wisniewski are busily employed at the observatory at Petersburg, and give us some reason to hope for a series of useful observations: the academy too, has engaged a mechanical artist, who promises to be of some use to this observatory.

Mr. Lambton has measured an arc of the meridian in India, with instruments made by the celebrated Ramsden; but we are as yet unacquainted with the results: it is in contemplation to measure several others in that part of the globe.

The *Connaissance des Temps* of the year XV. which appeared at the latter end of the year, contains a great number of memoirs, tables, observations, and calculations, the result of the labours of Messrs. Delaplace, Delambre, Dezak, Chompré, Messier, Vidal, Guérin, Flaugergues, Lalande, Burckhardt, Duc la Chapelle, Olbers, Thulis, Mougins, Schroeter, Keizer, Calandrelli, and Conti; it also contains the life of Bernier, the history of astronomy for 1803, and observations of the planets Piazzi and Olbers.

We have received, a little late however, an interesting book published in 1800, intitled *J. H. Schroeter, Beytrage, &c.* This third volume of the memoirs of astronomy is from M. Bailly, of Lilienthal, and bears the name of *Beytrage*, a name synonymous to *Collections*, towards the perfection of astronomy; it contains some researches on the satellites of Jupiter, on the rotation of Mercury, and on comets.

The eleventh volume of the Italian society, includes a supplement to the catalogue of stars of M. Cagnoli, on which we bestowed well-merited commendation in our history for last year. It also contains a memoir of M. Piazzi, on the obliquity of the ecliptic, the result of which accords with that found at Paris: the mean obliquity for 1800, was 23 deg. 27 min. 58 sec. in lieu of 59 sec. for the summer solstices, and a little less than 9 sec. instead of 6 sec. for those of winter: there are also some observations made by Chiminello and Cassella.

In the seventh volume of the Notices and Extracts from the Bibliothèque Française, there are 240 pages of observations and tables by Ibn Junis, in Arabic, accompanied by a translation from the pen of M. Causin, which have been of some use towards ascertaining the theory of the moon.

M. Delambre's tables of the sun, are under the hands of the printer, and contain many new equations, all the elements of which have been verified by new observations: after they are finished, it is proposed to continue the series, by printing others of the moon, and afterwards of the planets.

M. Cagnoli has given a second edition of his trigonometry in Italian, in which we find many interesting additions and improvements.

M. Biot has completed an abridgment of natural astronomy for the use of the Lycée, in which we find a brief account of all the discoveries detailed in the *Mécanique Céleste* of M. de Laplace: the principles of astronomy are the same with those of my Abridgment.

M. Bode has published an *Éphéméris* for the year 1806, which con-

tains many observations made by M. Mechain at Paris, M. Triesnecker at Vienna, Messrs. David and Bittner at Prague, M. Beitler at Mittau, Wurm at Blaubeuren, Bugge at Copenhagen, Derflinger at Kremsmünster, Schroeter and Harding at Lilienthal, Jungnitz at Breslaw, Benzenberg at Hamburg, Gauss at Brunswick, Olbers at Bremen, Fritsch at Quedlinburg, Seyffert at Dresden, Ende at Celle, Kautsch at Leutomschel, Schubert at Petersburg, Brandes at Eckwarden, Klugel at Halle, and Koch at Dantzig: it also contains some letters of Piazzi and many others relative to astronomy, the eclipses of stars, and observations of the new planets. This treatise, which is written in German, convinces me more and more of the utility of a knowledge of that language.

M. Harding has noticed some rapid changes in the brilliance of the light of the planet Olbers; they were commonly the most sensible at intervals of about 40 sec. each: he also has announced that M. Schroeter and himself are pretty certain that the ring of Saturn undergoes no rotation, to the instant of its disappearance.

M. Benzenberg says, that he has seen Jupiter in open day, and mentions several persons who have seen Regulus; and others, the satellites of Jupiter without glasses.

M. Wurm has discovered the equation of the sun by Venus to be 11, 6 sec. and the mass of that planet, with reference to the earth, to be 1.06, but Delambre has only found it to be 0, 96 min. by a great number of observations; the same as that given as the result of those of Brady and Maskelyne.

The Ephemeris of Vienna for 1805, contains new tables of Mars by M. Triesnecker, the perturbations calculated by Schubert at Petersburg; it also includes 77 pages of observations made at Vienna by Triesnecker

LIT. MAG. 1805.

and Burg; Taucher and Huliman at Buda, David and Bittner at Prague, Derflinger at Kremsmünster, Snia-decki at Cracow, Chiminello at Padua, Henrich at Ratisbon, Mechain at Paris; and by Messrs. Prosperin, Swanberg, Mallet, Holmquist, Trigidun, Rotheram, Nordmarck, Troil, Landesech, and Bredman, at Upsal; and of Lindtgrew, at Lund; together with some calculations of M. Bede, an astronomer at Carlsburg, and many observations from France, taken from the *Connoissance des Temps*.

The Ephemeris of Milan, for 1805, contains the oppositions of Jupiter and Herschel, by M. Cesaris; the inferior conjunction of Venus by M. Carlini; analytical formulæ, for the purpose of calculating the equation and variation of the centre, by M. Oriani, which the author has endeavoured to render more convenient by availing himself of the learned formulæ of M. de Lagrange (*Mem. de Berlin*, 1769); he has employed the twelfth power of the eccentricity, the sin of twelve times, the mean anomaly: the term of eleven times not giving above the fiftieth part of a second, for Mercury.

The Ephemerides calculated at Coimbra, for the marine, contain the distances of the moon from the planets, tables for reducing those distances, and new tables of Mars. The author of this work, Jose Monteiro de Rocha, was born July 25, 1734, a Canavezès, in the province of Mincio, from whence he went to Brazil, where he studied the mathematics; and on his return home in 1766, he observed the distances of the moon: in 1772, he was entrusted by his government with the revising of the laws of the university of Coimbra, where he was professor of phronomy; he was afterwards professor of astronomy at the same place, and he now enjoys the

direction of the observatory, the erection of which is in some measure owing to him, together with the office of tutor to the prince of Beira, and his infant brothers.

The president of the academy of Lisbon, presented on the sixteenth of March 1803, a complete collection of all the works which he has hitherto published, to the National Institute.

In the second part of the transactions of the Royal Society of London for 1802, Herschel has given a catalogue of five hundred new nebulae, and clusters of stars, in which he treats on the nature of these groups: he is of opinion that two stars, connected with each other in virtue of gravitation, may describe a circle or an ellipse round a common centre, without having any solid body placed in that centre.

The movements of stars being discovered to be sensible in many instances, and astronomers no longer being able to content themselves with the precession already calculated; I have in consequence calculated the movements of about five hundred, for the *Connoissance des Temps*, following the catalogues of Lacaille, Meyer, and Bradley, which are forty or fifty years old; those which are not included in these catalogues, cannot be properly calculated for several years to come.

M. Vidal of Mirepoix, observed all the planets during the day, on the fifth and eighth of September, and has compared them with twenty principal stars, observed also during the sun shine: this is rather a singular circumstance, and he has given us the sole example of the kind, and that, with a degree of courage and precision equally uncommon.

We have been presented with a series of extremely useful tables; M. Plauger has calculated the equation of Mercury for every ten minutes;

M. Clerc has calculated a table of all the dimensions of the terrestrial spheroid, and the longitude of the principal stars of the fundamental catalogue; M. Mougin, a table of the changes of longitude, corresponding to the changes of right ascension and declination; M. Guerin, some tables of interpolation; and M. Chompre, some tables of altitudes.

M. De Narcy has constructed prisms of rock crystal, for the purpose of being used for glasses, and to measure exactly the diameters of the planets; it is to be hoped that every astronomer is already in possession of them.

M. Ciccolini has thought of applying a graduated quarter circle, with a ruler or alidade, instead of a plummet, to the reflecting circle, which both gives the altitude of the heavenly bodies more readily, and obviates the uncertainty, which often causes observations of altitudes to fail. He has discovered the advantage of being able to give a less field to the telescope, by restraining its magnifying power, and he proposes by and by to publish a description of it.

M. Ciccolini is highly pleased with the chronometer of Louis Berthoud, No. 43; M. Humboldt also gives it his high approbation, and my testimony to its merit has already been given for No. 36, which I have made use of for the space of two years.

On the eighteenth of May, M. Jean-René Lévêgue, notary at Tillieres, and already well known amongst astronomers; presented a new method of reducing the distances of the moon from the stars, when observed at sea, to the board of longitude: it possesses several advantages over the methods at present known, by saving the necessity of preparatory operations, and the author has adjoined a table of logarithmic differences, which had

hardly been thought of: the tables which he proposes to publish in illustration, and for the use of his new method, will also possess the advantage of being no way voluminous.

Messrs. Calandrelli and Conti, have published a volume at Rome, under the title of *Opusculi astronomici e fisici*, which contains calculations of the passage of Mercury in 1802; the height of the pole at the Roman College, 41 deg. 53 min. 54 sec., and the declinations of many stars; they have been much made use of; the height of the observatory above the level of the sea, 177 feet; together with that of several other places in Rome, and a series of meteorological observations made during ten years.

M. Schubert has published the first volume of an important work at Petersburg; it is an astronomy for the people, and promises to be of much utility in extending the knowledge of the science.

A Repertory of the Memoirs of all the learned Academies, has been published by M. Reuss, at Göttingen, which includes amongst the rest, that of astronomy. I had made a similar one for my own use, but have only printed part of it, in my Bibliography, in 1803.

The Table of my Bibliography, which is a necessary appendage to that voluminous work, has been undertaken by M. Cotte, it was printed at the press of the republic, where Chaptal got it introduced, and made its appearance in August, occupying 45 pages.

M. Vanswinden has presented me with a great number of supplements for my *Bibliographie Astronomique*.

An Almanack of Ramazan, has been printed at Constantinople for the first time, under the direction of Abdorhaman, and at the printing press established in 1726, by Said, who was at Paris with his father,

when ambassador, and by Ibrahim, a Hungarian. Achmet III. has protected them, and they have printed several books, but the Almanack was never printed before.

I solicited the re-establishment of the Gregorian calendar in France, but the Emperor contented himself for the present, with ordering the celebration of the first of January, already accounted one of the family feasts, by the majority of the French.

M. Vidal, who has been making a series of the most scrupulous observations on the meridian, with his meridian telescope, thinks that he has discovered a slight variation in its direction.

M. Benzenberg professor of Physics and Astronomy at Dusseldorp, has published twenty-eight experiments made with well turned, and highly polished balls, dropped from a height of 270 Paris feet; they give at a medium five lines of deviation towards the east, by a plummet, and the theory assigns them 4, 6 lines. These experiments have been repeated in the coal mines of Schebusch; and they prove, if proof were necessary, the movement of the earth. Some later experiments made at Bologna, by Guglielmi, have afforded nearly the same result.

M. Pontus has observed the tides at Dieppe, Messrs. Carron and Parguet at Ostend, and M. Lauvtier at Audierne, as I have announced in the *Connoissance des Temps* for the year XV.

An account of the ærostatic experiments which were made at Bologna, on the second of October 1803, and the twenty-second of August 1804, by Zambecari, has been published in the memoirs of the society of that place, and contains some descriptions of oars, and other conveniences, which lead us to hope for some progress towards the improvement in ærostation.

M. Dupuis of the Institute has read a memoir on the Phœnix, in which he demonstrates (what few people ever denied) that it never had any existence; its return was to take place after 1461 years, but there has been some difference of opinion, as to the duration of the period. Herodotus relates many wonderful stories concerning it, Pliny speaks of its reproduction, and Tacitus (*book V. ch. 28*), informs us, that it last perished at Heliopolis, and that it was consecrated to the sun. One of its appearances took place at the epoch of Sesostriis, 1328 years before our æra, but it is more than probable, that it either was a symbol or a name of the sun.

Some doubts having been advanced, in an inaugural thesis, by M. Boulet, respecting the time in which Hippocrates lived, grounded on a passage to be found in his works which mentions the rising of Arcturus; M. Dupuis has remarked that the fine theory of this author might be destroyed in a very few words. M. Boulet pretends that the rising of Arcturus was a heliacal one, contrary to the plain text of Hesiod, who says, (*v. 182*) that it was a crepuscular rising which takes place at the end of the day, at the beginning of night; were this true, and that the equinoctial colures were placed, as they ought to be under such a circumstance, it would require 13,000 years, and so far from agreeing with the positions given by Hesiod, we find that Sirius was not visible under the parallel of 39 deg. and that the other appearances would not at all fall in with the epoch alluded to by the poet; and the result of such a great change of declination would be, that the risings and settings would not answer to the times of the year to which the author has made them agree.

[To be continued.]

For the Monthly Epitome.

ACCOUNT OF HOLKHAM ANNUAL SHEEP-SHEARING.

ON the last Monday in June, the Annual Sheep-shearing commenced at Holkham, and was attended by the Duke of Bedford, Lord William Russell, Earl Winchelsea, Messrs. Tollett, Burgoyne, Motteux, Greggs, Becher, Bentinck, Cripps, Montague, Moore, Bell, Postle, Muskett, Astley, and many other breeders and agriculturists.

The business commenced by the company's viewing two drill machines at work, which deposited rape cake reduced to the state of powder, and turnip seed in the same furrows, thus manuring the future plants individually, and spinning out a ton of the cake, to cover as much as five or six acres. Afterwards they proceeded to inspect Mr. Ball's four, and two-horse thrashing machines at work, the prize boars and rams, and the Leicester tups.

About three o'clock a large party retired to the hall, and were entertained with the usual hospitality of their highly respectable host. After a variety of the toasts customary on such occasions, the company rose and returned to Longlands, where the Leicester tups were sold at from ten to fifty guineas each: three pens of Leicester ewes, of five each, were sold at sixteen, twenty, and twenty-five guineas, which terminated the business of the day.

On Tuesday morning the company proceeded to inspect a newly-improved Norfolk plough at work, the invention of Mr. Ball's, of Holt, and a neat and ingenious model of a dibbling machine, constructed by a young man in the neighbourhood. On their arrival at Longlands, they mustered much more strongly than on the preceding day, and inspected the clipping; after which they went to view the operation of a mowing machine, the invention of Mr. Bur-

rell, of Thetford; the extreme wetness of the grass was a great obstacle to the experiment; but some of the spectators fancied, that with a few improvements, it might be made to execute its work more expeditiously, if not more neatly than a scythe. The prize wethers and theaves were next examined, together with the South Down tups; after which the party retired to dinner as on the preceding day.

At six in the evening, they resorted to the sheep houses and yard, where ten pens of South Down ewes, were sold at from twenty to thirty-one guineas each; from hence they proceeded to Longlands, where the South Down tups, were let at from fifteen to forty guineas a head, which terminated the business of the day.

On Wednesday the first object of attention was the slaughter-house, where the party viewed the fat carcasses. A three-shear Leicester wether of Mr. Coke's, weighed 13 st. 1 lb.; and the following prize sheep weighed respectively; Mr. Money's Leicester wether, 9 st. 13 lb.—Mr. Parsley's ditto, 8 st. 11 lb.—Mr. Purdy's Down, 8 st. 13 lb.—Mr. George's ditto, 8 st. 12 lb.—and Mr. Blyth's ditto, 9 st. 6 lb. On the arrival of the party at Longlands, Mr. Clarke exhibited a scuffer, and Messrs. Wilson and Standish of Lynn, a drill, on improved principles: this machine deposits rape dust and turnip seed, in a complete and regular manner, the quantity of which, as well as of the seed, can be regulated by a screw inclosed in a box, which being locked, the man who works the machine can make no alteration. This contrivance will undoubtedly contribute to certainty of experiment; but it may be of much mischief in practice, if the master should thus be determined to tie up his workmen's hands, in defiance of all chances.

After viewing these experiments, the

company returned to Mr. Wright's barn, to view Mr. Ball's thrashing machine, employed on barley, it having been, when previously viewed, thrashing wheat. Barley being a favourite crop amongst the Norfolk gentlemen, this experiment excited some interest, and they were gratified with seeing it perform its operations in an expeditious and satisfactory manner. Another thrashing machine, by Mr. Wigful, thrashed some wheat, but no barley.

Dinner being ended, this day the prize cups were placed on the table before Mr. Coke, who, after having given "THE KING," and a few other loyal toasts, proceeded to inform the company of the adjudication of the prizes. That for the best Leicester wether was then delivered to Mr. Ch. Money, and that for the South Down, to Mr. George, of Dunstan, which being situated in East Norfolk, drew some expressions of satisfaction from Mr. C. that one, at least, was going into that district. Mr. Blyth received a prize for the second best South Down wether; Mr. Buckley, for the best Leicester ditto; and Mr. Overman, for the best Leicester tup; Mr. Oakes, for the best boar; and Mr. Reeve, for having irrigated the greatest quantity of grass land, and in the best manner.

A sweepstakes had been made the preceding day, to estimate the weight of Mr. Coke's three-shear Leicester wethers, which Mr. C. declared to have been won by Lord Winchelsea, his being within half a pound of the actual weight. After this business the company went to the cow-houses, where the long-horned cattle of Mr. Fuller's breed were disposed of; the yearlings at from seven to thirteen guineas and a half; the two-year-olds at from seven and a half to fifteen guineas and a half. Cows with calves at their sides, at from seventeen and a half to thirty-seven guineas; cows not in milk, at from seventeen to thirty-four guineas; a four-years-old bull at

this city—four guineas; a two-year-old justice, the judges of the supreme court, the members of the supreme council, and the members of the council of the college, the principal civil and military officers at the presidency, and many learned natives being present on the occasion.

As soon as his excellency had taken his seat, the disputations commenced in the following order:

1st.—HINDOOSTANEE.

Position. — “The oriental languages are studied with more success in India than in England, and with greater advantage to the public service.”

Defended—by Mr. Turnbull.

Chief opponent—Mr. Scott.

Second opponent—Mr. Christian.

Moderator—Captain Mouat.

2d.—PERSIAN.

Position. — “The Persian language is of more utility in the general administration of the British empire in India, than the Hindoostanee.”

Defended—by Mr. Scott.

Chief opponent—Mr. Turnbull.

Second opponent—Mr. Littledale.

Moderator—M. Lumsden, esq.

3d.—DECLAMATION,

In the Bengalee language—by Mr. Marjoribanks.

4th.—DECLAMATION,

In the Arabic language—by Mr. Littledale.

5th.—DECLAMATION,

In the Mahratta language—by Mr. Trower.

Mr. Cook, a gentleman resident in the neighbourhood of Aylsham, exhibited a model of his thrashing-mill at the hall, which met with great approbation. Two Merino rams were shewn by Mr. Tollett, of Staffordshire, the wool of which was exquisitely fine: he also shewed a three-year-old wether, the produce of a cross betwixt the Merino and the South Down breeds, which had never been shorn. It had retained its wool, which was very fine, though of great length; it nevertheless was the opinion of several persons, conversant in the wool trade, who were present, that its great length rendered it unfit for those purposes to which fine wool is commonly applied, and that it was, in consequence, worth something less, than if it were shorter. It must, however, be acknowledged, that such circumstance could be no permanent disadvantage to fleeces of this kind, so long as we possess the power, if we chuse, of clipping once in one or two, instead of once in three years. It was the prevailing opinion, that short wool would, this year, be worth as much as 3l. 10s. per tod, or even much higher.

For the Monthly Epitome.

ACCOUNT OF THE DISPUTATION
IN THE ORIENTAL LANGUAGES,
AT THE COLLEGE OF FORT WIL-
LIAM, IN THE EAST INDIES,
ON THE 9TH OF FEB. 1805.

HIS Excellency the Visitor having entered the room where the disputations were to be held, accompanied by the honourable the chief

At the conclusion of each disputation, an appropriate speech in the language of the disputation, was delivered by the respective moderators.

When the disputations and declamations were concluded, his excellency signified to the officers of the college his directions, that the prizes and honorary rewards should be distributed in his presence, on Monday, the 11th of February. His

excellency also notified his intention to confer the degree of honour established by the statutes, on certain students, whom he had directed the council of the college to present to him for that purpose.

On Monday, the 11th of February, his excellency the visitor entered the room at eleven o'clock, accompanied by the honourable the chief justice, the judges of the supreme court, the members of the supreme council, the members of the council of the college, and the officers of his excellency's suite.

As soon as the visitor had taken his seat, the vice provost proceeded to present to his excellency those students who were entitled under statute VIII. to receive degrees of honour, and whose presentation had been previously directed by his excellency. The vice provost publicly read the certificate granted by the council of the college to each student respectively, specifying the high proficiency which he had made in the oriental languages, and also the regularity of his conduct during his residence at college. When the certificate had been read, his excellency the visitor presented to each student the honorary diploma, inscribed on vellum, in the oriental character, purporting, that the committee of public examination having declared that the student had made such proficiency in certain of the oriental languages, as entitled him to a degree of honour in the same, his excellency was pleased to confer the said degree, in conformity to the statute.

The students now leaving college, on whom his excellency was pleased to confer a degree of honour, on this occasion, were

Mr. Thomas Chisholme Scott, Mr. Montague Henry Turnbull, Mr. Joseph Littledale, and Mr. James Marjoribanks.

After the degrees of honour had

been conferred, the prizes, medals, and honorary rewards adjudged at the late public examination, were distributed by the provost, in the presence of the visitor, to the following students, now leaving college.

Messrs. Thomas Chisholme Scott, Montague Henry Turnbull, Joseph Littledale, James Marjoribanks, William Fraser, Henry Shaksepear, Hugh Hope, Henry Alexander, William Trower, and Shearman Bird.

Honorary rewards were presented, at the same time, to the following junior students, remaining in college :

Messrs. Hugh George Christian, Edward Parry, Henry Newnham, William Wilberforce Bird, William Beckford Gordon, Charles Chapman, George John Siddons, Walter Ewer, and Edward Maxwell.

The particular prizes adjudged to each will be found in the annexed report.

After the prizes and honorary rewards had been distributed, his excellency the visitor was pleased to deliver the following speech.

" Gentlemen of the college of Fort William,

" At the close of the public disputations of the last year, the delay which had protracted the period of your annual meeting, enabled me to signify my judgment with regard to the progress of the institution, at an advanced period of the season.

" On that occasion, having expressed to you my approbation of your general conduct, and having adverted to such objects as appeared to me to demand your particular attention, my duty, on this day, appears to be limited to the consideration of the state and condition of this institution, within the period of time which had elapsed since the conclusion of the last disputations.

" The diminution of the total number of the students, by the separation of the gentlemen of the esta-

ishments of Fort St. George and Bombay, has unavoidably affected the number and variety of the public exercises pronounced, and of the honours conferred, on the present occasion.

"The sphere of emulation and competition has been contracted by the necessary operation of the same cause; but I am happy to perceive, that you have persevered in the indefatigable exertion of your general zeal, industry, and spirit of study.

"The students who have maintained arguments at the public disputations, on the present occasion, have not passed through a course of study equal, in point of duration, with that which enabled the students of former years to attain the honours attached to similar public exercises. Notwithstanding this disadvantage, the gentlemen who have held disputations on the present occasion, have successfully rivalled their most distinguished predecessors, in correct language, fluent expression, and accurate pronunciation.

"The degrees of honour conferred this day, on Messrs. Thomas Chisholme Scott, Montague Henry Turnbull, Joseph Littledale, and James Marjoribanks, are the public and just rewards of merit, which has not been surpassed by any student of this college; and I entertain a confident hope, that the public services of these gentlemen will prove valuable to the interests of the company, and of our country in India.

"The students distinguished by prizes and honorary rewards, are also entitled to commendation; and the principles of public justice demand my applause of the attainments of the greater proportion of those who now proceed to the public service.

"It is satisfactory to be enabled to declare, that the general conduct and progress of the students, conti-

nue to merit the approbation of this government, and to reflect considerable honour on the character of the institution, and on the knowledge, talents, skill, and diligence of the professors, in the discharge of their respective duties.

"At the last disputation, I expressed my desire that a more general attention should be paid to the study of the vernacular language of Bengal. I observe, with pleasure, that a degree of honour has been merited and conferred on this day, for high proficiency in that language, and that the study of that useful attainment is now prosecuted by many of the students with diligence and success.

"In the Mahratta language a progress has been made, which merits approbation and encouragement. The declamation pronounced, for the first time, in that language, is highly creditable to the gentleman who pronounced it, and the learned professor, under whose care the students in that department have manifested meritorious industry and application, attended by great success, within a limited period of time.

"The compilation and publication of useful works in the oriental languages have proceeded with unabated spirit, and with eminent public advantage, by affording additional facilities throughout India, in the general attainment of the several languages requisite for the conduct of the service.

"Amongst useful works of this description, a grammar of the Mahratta language has been compiled and printed, and a vocabulary of the same language is now in the press.

"Since the last meeting, therefore, the promotion of oriental knowledge, in the British service in India, has proceeded with increased success, by the progress of the studies and labours of the gentlemen of this college.

"The attention of the officers

and students of the college, appears also to have been successfully directed to those important objects of discipline, regularity, and good order, which formed an essential part of my recent admonitions from this place. My most solemn and sacred duty demands that I should enforce those admonitions on every seasonable occasion, and by every attainable sanction of reward, encouragement, and authority. I cannot, therefore, omit this public opportunity of expressing my particular satisfaction in the conduct of those students, who have manifested their qualification for the due discharge of the highest stations in this service, by an attentive observance, not merely of the letter, but of the true spirit of the statutes, which prescribe a strict attention to the maxims of regularity, economy, and good order.

"The most eminent and brilliant success in the highest objects of study, will prove an inadequate qualification for the service of the company, and of our country in India, if the just application of those happy attainments be not secured, by a solid foundation of virtuous principles and correct conduct. The whole system of the education which you have received at home, furnishes abundant explanation of the principles and objects of the statutes of this college, which ordain a due attention to the order and regularity of your private economy, and to those habits of life, calculated to protect you from future embarrassment and distress, in the exercise of your public duties: and the vital principle of this service, combined with the preservation of your most urgent interests, and of your most sacred honour in this country, require me to inculcate and to enjoin the indispensable necessity of your strict conformity to these essential articles of the statutes.

"In closing the proceedings of
LIT. MAG. 1805.

this day, I have the satisfaction to signify to you, that a considerable progress has been made in the arrangements requisite to promote and to facilitate, in this college, the study of the laws and regulations enacted by the governor-general in council, for the government of the British territories, subject to the presidency of Bengal.

"With the able assistance of the principal public officers of this government, the commencement of a regular system of study in that important branch may be expected during the course of the present year.

"To this system of study, it is my intention to add rewards and honours, calculated to distinguish the merits of those students who shall appear at the examinations to have attained eminent knowledge of the laws and regulations which they are destined to administer, in their several stations, to the people of these extensive provinces.

"In the original foundation of this college, it was my intention to have provided sufficient means of instruction for the students in the principles of general jurisprudence, and of the law of nations, connecting that course of study with the principles of the Mahomedan and Hindoo law, and with those of the wise and salutary code of laws, introduced by that great and worthy statesman, the Marquis Cornwallis, for the administration of these provinces, and improved and extended by succeeding governments, with the aid of the talents, knowledge, and virtues of Sir George Barlow, whose merits and services towards his country and mankind, in the formation and subsequent improvement of that code, are to be traced in the increasing prosperity and happiness of every province of the empire to which it has been extended.

"Unavoidable circumstances have prevented the institution of a regular course of lectures, on the general principles of jurisprudence, and of the law of nations. It is my duty, however, earnestly to recommend the study of the most approved elementary works in this branch, to all the students of the college. The knowledge of these general principles will prove of the utmost advantage in every department of this service. To those destined for the judicial department, the necessity of such a course of study is obvious and incontrovertible. But, in every department of the service, the knowledge of the leading maxims of general law will tend to secure a due observance, not only of the regulations of the government, but of the principles of universal justice and equity towards every class of our numerous and various subjects, and of all the native inhabitants of India.

"The study of the Mohammedan and Hindoo codes of law, will be facilitated by the works extant on those subjects; to which the attention of the students should be carefully directed. In the course of the present year, I trust, that a considerable progress may be made with the aid of the learning and skill of the principal judicial officers of this government, in establishing a regular course of study in the Mohammedan and Hindoo codes of law.

"But the accurate study of the regulation and laws of this government, under the guidance of the respectable and learned professor in that department, will afford ample opportunity of advantages and distinction to those students, who shall pursue such a course with diligence and attention.

"In pursuing that course, the general objects of this system of laws and regulations, will be manifest in the due distribution of the

legislative, executive, and judicial authorities of the state, in the establishment of an impartial administration of justice, according to existing laws, and in the provision of gradual means for the improvement of those laws.

"It is not my intention, at this time, to investigate the principles which constitute the basis of this code, or to trace their connection with the general maxims of jurisprudence, with the spirit of the British constitution, or with the doctrines of the Mohammedan and Hindoo codes and customs, manners and habits of our native subjects. Nor will I attempt, on this occasion, to describe the condition of these provinces with respect to the administration of justice, and to their internal civil constitution, either under the native government, or under the British power, previously to the introduction of the existing code of laws and regulations.

"It is sufficient for me to direct your attention to the indispensable necessity of acquiring a correct knowledge of the existing laws and regulations, for the purpose of enabling you to discharge your duty to the company, to your country, and to the people of these populous provinces.

"In every station in which you can be placed during the course of your public service, the due execution of these laws and regulations must, in a certain degree, depend upon your conduct. You must be either the instruments for the administration of the laws, or the direct objects of their salutary controul and restraint. In every instance, you will be subject to their general authority, and it will be your duty to conform to their spirit, to aid their operation, and to suggest every practicable improvement in their provisions and regulations.—Under such solemn obligations, I entertain a firm expectation, that, in the

prosecution of the object of study now recommended to your attention, you will display the same zeal, industry, and success, which have marked the progress of the great body of the students of this college, in every department to which their studies have been directed.

"Nor can this government direct your attention to any object more worthy to inspire honourable emulation, or to excite the highest efforts of industry and genius, or to reward the most transcendent success of just and laudable ambition.

"The due administration of just laws within these flourishing and populous provinces, is not only the foundation of the happiness of millions of people, but the main pillar of the vast fabric of the British empire in Asia: the main spring of our empire is situated here; and it is supplied and guarded by the laws and regulations of this government. From the prosperity of these provinces are derived all the sources of our revenue and commerce, and public credit; and the origin and stability of that prosperity are to be found in the code of laws which you are now directed to study, and hereafter destined to administer, to expound, and to amend.

"Subject to the common imperfection of every human institution, this system of laws is approved by

practical experience (the surest test of human legislation), and contains an active principle of continual revision, which affords the best security for progressive amendment. It is not the effusion of vain theory, issuing from speculative principles, and directed to visionary objects of impracticable perfection; but the solid work of plain, deliberate, practical benevolence, the legitimate offspring of genuine wisdom, and pure virtue. The excellence of the general spirit of these laws is attested by the noblest proof of just, wise, and honest government; by the restoration of happiness, tranquillity, and security, to an oppressed and suffering people; and by the revival of agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and general opulence, in a declining and impoverished country.

"Contemplating these benevolent views, and animated by the prospect of the great and exalted duty to which you are called, I trust, that you will derive from this institution the most effectual means of preserving and securing to the inhabitants of these prosperous regions, that primary object of all good governments, the greatest blessing attainable by any people—an impartial administration of just law."

BIOGRAPHY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

MEMOIR OF ARTHUR MURPHY.

THE subject of our present memoir was one of that constellation which long illuminated the literary hemisphere with distinguished splendor, in which Johnson shone with peculiar lustre, and which is now reduced to a comparatively small number. He long

moved in this illustrious circle with considerable reputation, and enjoyed a degree of applause, on account of his productions, which has been the lot of but few.

Mr. Arthur Murphy was born near Elphin, in Ireland, Dec. 27, 1730, and descended from a very

respectable family in that country. He was sent early in life to the college of St. Omers, where he remained till his eighteenth year, and was at the head of the Latin class, when he quitted the school. He was, indeed, an excellent scholar, and well acquainted with the Greek language, when he returned to his native country, and about the year 1746, was sent to England, and placed under the protection of a near relation, a person high in the mercantile world. It was intended by this relation, that Mr. Murphy should engage in commercial pursuits, but literature and the stage soon drew his attention, and wholly absorbed his mind.

Soon after Mr. Murphy came to England, his brother, for whom he became security to a considerable amount, went to the West Indies, and unfortunately fell a victim to the climate, just as he had the prospect of acquiring a considerable fortune. The success of Mr. Murphy's first tragedy, *The Orphan of China*, which he translated from Voltaire, enabled him to get rid of the pecuniary obligation arising from this circumstance, and he paid the money immediately from the profits of the play, with no other regret on the occasion, than what arose from the loss of an excellent brother.

His first theatrical piece was *The Apprentice*; to which Garrick contributed an admirable prologue, which is now always spoken before this farce; it was deservedly successful, and has an originality and invention, which never after are found in any other of Murphy's works.

Mr. Murphy's mother lived to a very advanced age, and in him she always found a dutiful and affectionate son. Indeed, he never had fortitude after her death to look over any letters or papers belonging to her, as they would have re-

mind him too sensibly of the loss of so good a parent, as he often declared that she had uniformly been.

Mr. Murphy was tempted to venture on the theatrical boards, and made several attempts to acquire reputation as an actor, but though he always displayed judgment, he wanted those splendid powers which are essential to the acquisition of fame and fortune in that arduous walk of life.

On his appearance in the character of *Othello*, in which his powers as a candidate for theatrical fame, were found totally inadequate, Churchill attacked him in the *Rosciad* in severe language. His lines on him are well known.

"Can none remember, yes! I know
all must,
When in the Moor, he ground his
teeth to dust,
When o'er the stage he folly's stand-
ard bore,
And common sense stood trembling
at the door."

He was, however, wholly undeserving of this brutal attack on his talents as an actor, which Churchill directed against him, chiefly from motives of party prejudice arising from his being warmly engaged at the commencement of the present reign in the party of the Earl of Bute. Mr. Murphy answered the scurrilities of that energetic, but coarse and furious bard, in a very humorous ode, addressed to the *Naiads of Fleet Ditch*; and in a very spirited poem, entitled *Expostulation*, in which he modestly, but firmly vindicated his literary character, against all the assaults of his various opponents. Mr. Murphy, however, withdrew from the stage; and employing himself in the study of the law, made two attempts to become a member of the *Temple*, and of *Gray's Inn*, but was rejected on the illiberal plea, that

he had been on the stage. He, however, found more elevated sentiments in the members of Lincoln's Inn, and from thence obtained admission to the bar, but the dramatic muse still engaged so much of his attention, that the law was always a secondary consideration.

In the course of his life, he sent twenty pieces to the stage, most of which were successful, and several of them will certainly retain an established rank among what are called *stock* pieces of the theatre.

Mr. Murphy's first literary undertaking was a series of essays, in the manner of the *Spectator*, entitled, *The Gray's Inn Journal*, which was published in 1753 and 1754, and afterwards collected into two volumes, and displayed great observation and knowledge of life, for so young a man, as, according to his own account, he was but twenty-one, when, as he used to say, "he had the impudence to write a periodical paper, during the time that Johnson was publishing his *Rambler*."

This work was the means of producing for the author an acquaintance with Johnson by a very singular occurrence.—Murphy was one day in the country with his friend Foote, when, suddenly starting up after dinner, he said that he must leave him, in order to finish for his printer a number of the *Gray's Inn Journal*. Foote told him he might shorten his labour, "for there is," said he, "a very pretty oriental tale in a French magazine, which I have in my pocket; suppose you translate it; you are the first, and it will do your work no discredit." Murphy gladly acquiesced, and the translation was dispatched to London and printed. But what was his surprise, upon his arrival in town, to find that this same oriental tale, translated from the French, had its original in a number of the *Rambler*—that he had been translating

from a translation, and committing a piracy upon Johnson. Nothing remained but an apology, to which, from the character of Johnson, Murphy was somewhat averse; however, he called upon him, explained the circumstances of the mistake, and was received with the greatest good humour. This introduction laid the basis of a friendship which subsisted to the Doctor's death, and Murphy found means to requite the obligation by introducing Johnson, some years after, to the family of the Thrales, to whom he was so signally indebted for the comforts of the latter part of his life.

At one period of his life Mr. Murphy came forward as a political writer, though without putting his name to his productions. The works of this kind, which were well known to have issued from his pen, were "The Test," and "The Auditor," by which he powerfully supported the operations of government at that time; and consequently exposed himself to all the violence of party defamation. He ranked among those who supported the politics of Lord North, but with the usual uncertainty of existence common to political writings, the productions above mentioned have long since passed into oblivion. He, however, has shewn his taste and elegance as a scholar by a Latin version of the *Temple of Fame*, and of Gray's celebrated *Elegy*, as well as other admired English poems, and has presented the world with a masterly translation of the works of Tacitus.

At the Westminster election, in 1784, Mr. Murphy succeeded Mr. Francis Hargrave as assessor of the high bailiff in the celebrated scrutiny which arose out of that contest; and also warmly engaged himself in the cause of Mr. John Palmer, the founder of the Royalty Theatre in Wellclose-square. He wrote several poetical pieces for that gentleman, and afterwards pleaded

his cause before the magistrates at Guildhall.

Mr. Murphy had many squabbles with several contemporary wits, but though he did not quietly receive a blow, he was never the first to give one. His life was apparently considerably prolonged by the medical assistance of his friend Jesse Foote, who relieved him some years ago from an illness of the most alarming kind, and whom he has appointed his executor, and entrusted all his manuscripts to his care.

Mr. Murphy died at Knightsbridge on the 18th of July, 1805, aged 78 years. The general character of his literary works is elegance and superficiality, and he has been considered as the most intrepid, and at the same time, the most disingenuous plagiarist of his day. As a poet, his verses rank considerably below mediocrity, and though his prose was polished and pure, yet his writings will not arrive at that eminence in the republic of literature, as to be entitled to the honourable appellation of classic. Mr. Murphy had been a gay and free liver in the early part of his life, and had no particular measure of seriousness at its close. He was esteemed by an extensive circle of friends as an honest good man, and will be long lamented by those who knew him most and best.

As a writer, Mr. Murphy shone most in dramatic poetry, and it may be said of him what few who have written for the stage can boast, that he was equally successful in farce, comedy, and tragedy. All his pieces evince great knowledge of the world, and a minute acquaintance with the human character, combined with that liveliness of fancy which is essentially necessary to produce mirth.

In his tragedies, a happy delineation of character is found joined to a due mixture of the pathetic and heroic, clothed in language at once

appropriate, easy, and elegant, and so great has been the success of his plays, that though the receipts of the old theatre in Drury-lane never amounted to three hundred pounds a night, he gained eight hundred pounds by his "*Grecian Daughter*," and nearly the same sum by "*The Way to Keep Him*."

On the publication, in 1762, of a complete edition of the works of the celebrated novel writer, Fielding, Mr. Murphy wrote an essay on the life and genius of the author, which was prefixed to that edition, and for which he received a considerable sum. His conduct, on this occasion, gained him great respect; a considerable quantity of letters and anecdotes were put into his hands by various persons, with a view of illucidating the memoir. On examining these communications, he found that many of them were well adapted to amuse the public, but would considerably tarnish the memory of the deceased; he therefore suppressed them, and gave to his production the qualified title of an essay.

Mr. Murphy, as we mentioned before, presented the world with an elegant translation of Tacitus, in four quarto volumes, and at the time of his death was engaged in seeing through the press a new edition, in octavo, of that celebrated work. In this translation he was engaged many years, and there is a circumstance respecting it which does Mr. Murphy infinite honour. Not long before the publication, a nobleman of high rank and consequence in the political world, signified to the translator his wish to have it dedicated to him. Mr. Murphy had, however, previously determined to inscribe his labours to the man whom he most esteemed, the immortal Burke, and he accordingly made a noble sacrifice of interest to friendship.

ADVERSARIA :

Literary, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous.

IN our number for November last, we presented our readers with a detailed account of unrolling those curious remains of ancient literature, the manuscripts discovered in the ruins of *HERCULANEUM*, in addition to which we have recently learnt the following particulars. The Rev. Mr. Hayter, who employs eleven young men in the business of unfolding these manuscripts, now begins to reap the fruit of his patience and of his labours; his assistants are become very expert, and more expeditious than those engaged in the same work before them. Mr. Hayter expects to find a *Mæander* entire, an *Ennius*, and a *Polybius*. He has found another Greek author, *Kolotos*, whose name and philosophical works were entirely unknown to us. Seven Latin authors have successively passed through the hands of Mr. Hayter, but so damaged that it has been impossible to unroll them. One of these authors appears to be a *Titus Livius*. One of the most valuable discoveries made by Mr. Hayter, is an *Epicurus* entire, of whom we had only some fragments. The following are the names of the authors' manuscripts which have been unrolled, viz. *Philodemus*, *Epicurus*, *Phædrus*, *Demetrius Phalereus*, and the above named *Kolotos*. There still remains 600 manuscripts in the museum of *Portici*.

Soon will be published by Mr. G. Dyer, a restoration of the ancient modes of bestowing names on the rivers, hills, vallies, plains, and settlements of Britain; from which, nearly all the explanations given to these by *Verstegan*, *Skinner*, *Valancey*, *Bryant*, *Borlase*, *Whitaker*, *Price*, *Macpherson*, and other etymologists, are shewn to be unfounded.

A new volume of the transactions

of the literary and philosophical society of Manchester is nearly ready for publication.

E. Rudge, esq. whose name, owing to misprint, was erroneously given in a former number, has just published the first and second fasciculi of his respectable work on the plants of *Cayenne*.

On the 26th of November, 1804, the Hon. the Governor, Lord Valentia, General Nicholls, and several other gentlemen of Bombay, met at Sir James Macintosh's, at *Parrell*, and formed themselves into a society, under the name of "The Literary Society of Bombay," for the purpose of collecting useful knowledge in every branch of science, and of promoting a farther investigation of the history, literature, arts, and manners of the Asiatic nations." Sir James Macintosh, who was chosen president, delivered a very eloquent discourse, containing a comprehensive view of the most suitable objects of the institution, and the line of research which might be pursued with the best hopes of advantage.

Mr. Malcolm will publish in the course of a few weeks, *A Compendium of Modern Husbandry*, principally written during a survey of the county of Surrey, made at the desire of the board of agriculture: illustrative also of the best practices in the neighbouring counties of Kent, Sussex, &c. This work comprises an analysis of manures, shewing the chemical contents, and their proper application to soils and plants of all descriptions; also an essay on timber, exhibiting a view of the increasing scarcity of that important article; with hints on the means of counteracting it; together with a variety of miscellaneous subjects peculiarly adapted to the present state of the internal economy of the kingdom. It will be illustrated

with plates, and a map of Surrey, coloured so as to point out the variations of soils in the different districts.

The Rev. Robert Fellowes is preparing for the press, in two large volumes, octavo, a body of speculative and practical theology. He is also employed on a poetical work, to be entitled, 'The Bowers of Love, or poems particularly designed to describe and exemplify the finer and more delicate feelings of the heart, and chiefly translated or imitated from the German Idylls, and other works of Gesner.

The respectable principal of St. Andrew's College, Professor Playfair, has circulated proposals for printing a complete system of geography ancient and modern, in six thick quarto volumes, accompanied with ancient and modern maps, designed to form a separate atlas. He has long been employed in the execution of this extensive and elaborate work.

Mr. Elmes, architect, is employed on a poem on the progress of architecture, divided into three books, each including one of the three great scientific nations of antiquity, viz. Egypt, Greece, and Rome; in which he traces its progress through those three grand dynasties of art and classical architecture. It will be illustrated by copious notes, analogous episodes, and historical anecdotes. Few authors have hitherto had much success in works of this kind, unless the poetry were employed as a vehicle to valuable notes, but Mr. E. has the hardiness to try again.

A new edition, the fourth, of the travels of Anacharsis, may be expected in the course of the ensuing month: it has been much corrected and enlarged, and the plates, besides being increased in number, have been re-engraved.

A History of America, from its discovery to the present period,

from the pen of Mr. Snowden, is in the press.

An alphabetical arrangement of the facts contained in the *Annales de Chimie*, from the commencement of that work to the present time, is in preparation by Mr. G. Wright; and should his labours meet with the desired encouragement, he proposes to extend them to the *Journal de Physique*, and other eminent periodical continental works. The design of the author is to give, at one view, a detailed account of the labours of the foreign philosophers; and the merit of many of the foreign periodical publications, in which they are usually published, is so well established, particularly the two named, as to cause the author to hope for the patronage of his countrymen, and to flatter himself, that he shall produce in a small compass, a work which will be both entertaining and useful.

The remaining part of Mr. J. P. Malcolm's *Londinium Redivivum* is in the press. This work, the former part of which is already before the public, gives the parochial history of parishes, compiled from original and hitherto unknown records of each, contained in vestry books, churchwardens' books, and the registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials, from 1538, the date of their commencement. The dean and chapter of St. Paul's having permitted their archives to be explored, every particular respecting that building is amply detailed. The other institutions throughout the metropolis are described in the same manner from their own muniment rooms; and the whole is illustrated by extracts from MSS. in the British Museum; and accompanied by illustrative engravings.

A complete edition of the works of the late author of the *Spiritual Quixote* is in preparation.

A letter to the Bishop of Gloucester, on his publication respect-

ing the Trinity, may be shortly expected from the pen of Mr. Evan-son.

The Rev. J. Mitchell is printing an essay on the best means of civilizing the subjects of the British empire in India, and of diffusing the light of the Christian religion in the eastern world; and which obtained Mr. Buchanan's prize at the university at Glasgow.

The Rev. Edmund Butcher, the respectable dissenting minister at Sidmouth, will shortly publish an account of a tour from that place to the north of England: he has also a second volume of discourses on practical subjects in the press.

Dr. Valpy will shortly publish a Greek grammar, written on the plan of his Latin one.

Mr. Clark of Isleworth, has in the press a work, which he intends as a supplement to Dr. Paley's *Natural Theology*; the object of which is to demonstrate, from the constitution and reproduction of the animal creation, the impossibility that animals so constructed could have had their existence in virtue of undirected energies, and that they must have been the production of a divine intelligence.

The second volume of Mr. John Bell's voluminous system of surgery may be shortly expected to appear.

Mr. Palmer, of Hackney, who is in possession of a great number of the letters of the late Job Orton, in his own short hand, is preparing a select number of them for the press, under the title of *Letters to Dissenting Ministers, and students for the ministry*. A valuable addition will be made to these letters, by a series of others, written to the late Mr. Clerk of Birmingham, between 1752 and 1762, and which fell, on Mr. Clerk's decease, into the hands of a friend, who transmitted them to Mr. Palmer. *Memoirs of the*

LIT. MAG. 1805.

author will be prefixed to the work by the present editor.

Mr. Dix, well known as the author of several mathematical treatises, will shortly publish in an atlas, for the use of, and adapted to the capacities of children: it will be published in numbers.

Mr. Warren is preparing a history of the rise, progress, and termination of the American war, interspersed with biographical, political and moral observations.

Mrs. Portia Young is printing a work, for the benefit of an orphan, a descendant of the illustrious Sir Matthew Hale, principally extracted from Doddridge's *Family expositor*, and containing explanations on the concluding part of the *History of Christ*; to which is added, a harmony of the Evangelists, a paraphrase, and notes.

A volume of biographical memoirs of the late Dr. Joseph Wharton, with a selection from his poetical works, and an extensive literary correspondence, left by him for publication, is in the press: it will extend to a quarto volume, and is under the superintendence of Mr. Wool.

Professor Scott of Aberdeen, is preparing a work for publication, entitled *Elements of Intellectual Philosophy*, or an analysis of the powers of the human understanding, tending to ascertain the principles of rational logic.

Mr. Lipscomb will shortly publish a treatise, under the title of *Inoculation for the Small Pox vindicated*, and its superior efficacy and safety to the practice of vaccination clearly proved.

New editions of detached parts of the works of some of our more estimated divines, have lately made their appearance. Amongst these we find, Dr. Greene's (*Bishop of Ely*) *Discourses on the four last*

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things; Archbishop Secker's lectures on the catechism of the church of England; Dr. Gastrell's (Bishop of Chester) Christian Institutes; and Leslie's short and easy method with the deists.

Mr. Snape will shortly publish a treatise on practical farriery, in which some new methods of cure will be proposed, for some of the most formidable disorders incident to horses.

Mrs. Hunter of Norwich, the celebrated author of several excellent novels, has just finished another work of a similar nature, which will be published before the end of October.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The celebrated traveller **MUNGO PARKE**, with his companions, **ANDERSON** and **SCOTT**, who sailed from Portsmouth a few months ago, touched, on their passage, at the islands of St. Jago and Goree, and arrived at Kayay, on the river Gambia, on the 14th of April, from whence they would proceed into the interior of Africa, to effect the business on which they were dispatched. The heat was at that time so excessive, that the thermometer was constantly at 100 degrees and upwards in the shade, and for two or three hours after sunset, continued at from 82 to 92 degrees. Notwithstanding this excess of heat, the whole party had enjoyed perfect health.

Sir Sidney Smith has lately invented a species of gun boat, which is said to promise many facilities in shoal water, the draught not being above eighteen or twenty inches, and is as easily managed as any boat of its size. He has also invented a new method of mounting cannon, by which they can be levelled and turned in every direction, even by a child: the gun turns on a wheel which lies flat on the carriage; and while a person turns

it round in any direction with his right hand, he can give it any degree of elevation, he shall chuse by his left. It is one of the greatest improvements in the art of gunnery which has appeared for many years; and we always are proud of beholding great men stoop to little things; but why is Sir Sidney, whose character is apparently the nearest akin to that of Lord Nelson, of any other person we hear of, thus employed, whilst there are so many important situations which he would so admirably fill.

The Bishop of London has lately vested in his five archdeacons as trustees, the sum of 6,700*l.* 3 per cents. yielding an annual income of 200*l.* towards establishing a fund for the relief of poor clergymen in his diocese, but not to be connected with that excellent charity which is already established for the relief of their widows and orphans.

The Leverian Museum is intended to be disposed of by public auction, some time in May, 1806, if it should not before be disposed of by private contract. This collection, which is extremely rich in natural history, and in various articles from the islands in the Pacific Ocean, containing altogether upwards of thirty thousand specimens, has been formed at an expence, amounting to more than 40,000*l.*

MEDICAL LECTURES.—The following, together with the lectures announced in our former number, will we believe, be nearly a complete account of all the courses on medicine delivered in the metropolis.

LONDON HOSPITAL.—The lectures at this hospital commence on the first of October, and will be delivered by the following gentlemen. The theory and practice of physic, by **DR. COOKE**.—Chemistry, by **DR. HAMILTON** and **DR. YELLOLY**.—Theory and practice of midwifery, by **DR. DENISON**.—

Anatomy, Physiology, and the Operations of Surgery, by Mr. HEADINGTON and Mr. FRAMPTON.—Anatomical Demonstrations and Dissections by Mr. ARMIGER.—Clinical Observations on Cases under Treatment, by Sir Wm. BLIZARD and Mr. T. BLIZARD.—Further information, both respecting the lectures and the terms of attending the hospital, may be obtained at the apothecary's shop.

The plan of instruction established for the benefit of pupils to the Westminster Hospital will be pursued as usual through the ensuing winter, under the superintendence and direction of Mr. CARLISLE and Mr. LYNN. Further particulars may be had at the hospital, James-street, Buckingham Gate.

Mr. THOMAS's lectures on Practical and Medical Surgery will commence on Monday, October 5, at his house in Leicester-square, at eight o'clock in the evening.

Mr. CARPUS will commence his lectures on Anatomy and Surgery, &c. on Monday, the 13th of September. The dissecting room will be open from eight in the morning to five in the afternoon. Further particulars may be had at No. 30, Dean-street, Soho.

Mr. HOME will commence his course of lectures on the principal Operations of Surgery at St. George's Hospital, on the 24th of October next. This course consists of about twelve lectures, and is delivered gratuitously once a week, to the hospital pupils, we believe on Saturday forenoons.

Dr. GEORGE PEARSON's lectures on Physic and Chemistry, will commence, on the first Monday in October, at the Laboratory, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square. Those on Therapeutics begin a quarter before eight, the practice of physic three quarters of an hour afterwards, and on chemistry at a quarter past

nine o'clock. They will be delivered every morning, Saturday excepted, when a clinical lecture, on the cases of patients under the Dr.'s care at St. George's Hospital, will be substituted in their stead.

Mr. MILBURN's Physiological Lectures, illustrated by anatomical preparations, casts, and drawings, &c. will recommence the first Monday in October, at eight o'clock in the evening, and will be continued every succeeding Monday at the same time.

Mr. JOHN TAUNTON will commence his course of lectures on Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, and Surgery, in October next. This gentleman, in conjunction with Dr. Reid and Dr. Squire, appear to be endeavouring to raise a school of Medical Instruction, of which the Finsbury Dispensary, St. John's-square, is the centre. We only conjecture this, however, from the circumstance of Dr. Reid having usually delivered his lectures at that place, and from no lecture-room being mentioned in Mr. Taunton's prospectus.

Dr. BATTY's course of lectures on the Theory and Practice of Midwifery, and on the Diseases of Women and Children, will commence on the 7th of October, at his house Great Marlborough-street, at seven o'clock in the evening.

Dr. BRADLEY will commence his autumnal course of lectures on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, in the second week in October.

Dr. BADHAM's autumnal course of lectures on the Institutes and Practice of Medicine, Chemistry, &c. will commence on the 15th of October, at his Laboratory, Clifford-street, at eight o'clock, and continue every morning at the same hour. Gentlemen who had become perpetual pupils to the lectures of Dr. Crichton, will be admitted to this and the succeeding, free of expence,

DR. HUTCHINSON, F. R. S. &c. will commence a course of lectures on the principles and practice of midwifery, and the diseases of women and children, early in October, at No. 19, Hatton-garden. The hours of giving these lectures will be such as not to interfere with various ones read at St. Bartholomew's hospital.

DR. HOOPER, will commence his lectures on the theory and practice of physic, *materia medica*, and pharmaceutical chemistry, on Wednesday the sixteenth of October, at eight o'clock in the morning, at his medical theatre, Cork-street, Burlington gardens.

The Court of Assistants of the Royal College of Surgeons, have resolved that the prize subject for the year 1806, for a premium of ten pounds, given by a member of the college, to the author of the best dissertation on a practical subject in surgery, shall be, "The diseases of the joints, particularly of the hip and knee, and the best mode of treatment." And, as the premium for one of the subjects last year was not adjudged to any candidate, that there be a second prize for the year 1806, viz. "Hernia, and the best mode of treatment."

The candidates must be members of the college, and not of the court of assistants. The dissertations to be written in English, and the importance and number of facts which they shall contain will be considered as the chief points of excellence.

Every dissertation must be distinguished by a motto or device, neither of which are to be in the hand-writing of the author; and each dissertation must be accompa-

nied by a paper, sealed, (but not with the author's seal) containing his name and place of abode, and having on the outside a motto (not in his own hand-writing) or device, the same as that of its respective dissertation.

The paper, corresponding in motto or device, with either of those affixed to the dissertation of the author, to whom the premium shall be adjudged, will necessarily be opened, but the others will be returned unopened, upon authenticated application, together with the dissertations to which they shall respectively belong.

Dissertations must be addressed to the secretary, at the college, before Christmas-day, 1806.

The adjudication will be in the month of April next after the delivery of the dissertation.

It is judged proper to repeat, that the prize subject for the present year, 1805, is, "Injuries of the head from external violence;" the dissertations on which must also be delivered before Christmas-day next.

Whilst on this subject, it may be proper to mention, that Mr. THELWALL, during the ensuing winter, proposes to deliver a series of lectures on elocution, in London, similar in design to those which he has been delivering with such success in the north of England, and Scotland. We have heard him lecture on this science, and make no doubt but he will be well received in the metropolis, notwithstanding the various opinions which have taken place respecting him; as he apparently carefully avoids political topics.

FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE third and fourth volumes of the works of the late King of Sweden have just appeared at

Stockholm. This collection published by the particular direction of his magnanimous son, will be the

most glorious and the most durable monument, that can be erected to the memory of Gustavus III. It may not, perhaps, be generally known in this country, that his late Majesty was one of the most distinguished writers that Sweden has produced. He was the founder of the Swedish academy at Stockholm, and obtained the first prize distributed by that society, for a memoir on the celebrated Swedish general, Torstenson. In an adver-

tisement prefixed by the academy to the first volume of their early transactions, which has recently appeared, it is stated, that not one of the arbiters knew that Gustavus had any ambition to shine in the career of literature. It is a matter of some astonishment, that there is as yet no English version of this master piece; it has been translated into the Danish language.

THE FINE ARTS.

The Editor flatters himself that this Article will be found of that Importance to the Professors and Amateurs of the Fine Arts, as to induce them to make the Monthly Epitome the principal Medium for communicating to the Public a complete Account of the various New Works in Sculpture, Painting, Engraving, &c. so that it may become a complete Repository of Intelligence in that elegant Department.

THE Society of Engravers propose to publish by subscription, a work consisting of selections from the antique; the drawings to be made by the first artists, under the immediate inspection and approbation of the proprietors of the respective originals, and to be engraved by the members of the society, being the first publication for the benefit of their fund. This work will consist of a selection of gems, statues, busts, basso relievos, and vases, with letter-press descriptions, and will be delivered in numbers, consisting of three parts; each number will consist of six engravings, viz. two gems, two statues or busts, and two vases or basso relievos. The first and second numbers will contain engravings on the following subjects, viz. 1. The Fall of Phæton. 2. A Roman Marriage. 3. The Head of the Indian Bacchus. 4. Psyche and Cupid; those are from celebrated gems. 5 and 6. The statues of Minerva and Ariadne. 7 and 8. The Busts of Agapis and Titan. 9. An Etruscan Vase. 10. A

Greek Vase. 11 and 12. Two Basso Relievos. The engravings will be made after drawings by H. Howard, A. R. A. Mr. Burney, and Mr. J. Bond, by Tomkins, Agar, Armstrong, Bond, Holl, Parker, Medland, Milton, and Warren.

Benjamin West, esq. president of the royal academy, having favoured the society of engravers with one of his pictures, to be engraved for the benefit of their fund, it is now under the hand of Mr. Valentine Green, A. R. A. engraver to the King, and will shortly be published.

The admirers of that justly celebrated poet, Mr. Cowper, will be pleased to hear, that a faithful likeness of him has been lately published by Miller, from a drawing of Lawrence's, engraved by Bartolozzi.

Proposals have been circulated for publishing by subscription a print, representing the magnanimous attack on El Muros fort and town, by his Majesty's frigate, La Loire, and the boat's crew of that ship, commanded by Lieutenant James Lucas Yeo. The marine part paint-

ed by Butterworth, the figures by J. Anderson; and to be engraved by Chesham: it will be ready for delivery in October.

Two monuments have lately been completed in that venerable pile, Westminster Abbey, to the memory of Captains Montague, Harvey, and Hutt, who nobly fell in the battle of the first of June, 1794.

On entering the west door of the abbey, on the right, is that of Captain Montague, comprehending a full-length figure of the captain; and a basso relievo representation of that part of the engagement in which he was slain. On the base are two lions, and behind two captives sitting in mournful attitude, whilst Fame holds a laurel over the hero's head, without an inscription: it is the production of Flaxman. On the left from the same entrance, is that of Captains Harvey and Hutt: the two principal figures are Britannia and Fame supporting an urn, on which are medallions of the two captains, and the words "SACRED TO HARVEY AND HUTT." Below is an alto-relievo representation of the battle of the first of June, 1794, an angel flying above signifying Providence, holding a palm branch in her left hand, and a balance in her right, pointing out Victory and Justice: this monument is the production of Bacon.

The picture of the late Marquis of Rockingham, presented to the corporation of Doncaster by Earl Fitzwilliam, arrived at the place of its destination a few days ago. It is painted by Phipps, from an original of Sir Joshua Reynolds, in the possession of his lordship; and is said to be an admirable copy. It is to be placed at the north end of the mansion-house, and is of a corresponding size with the picture of his Majesty, presented to the corporation last year by Lord Eardley.

A subscription is commenced at Sheffield for the purpose of erecting

a monument to the memory of the Rev. Dr. Wilkinson, the late rector of that place.

The equestrian statue of King William, intended to be erected in St. James's-square, is in a state of great forwardness; Mr. Bacon having promised to complete it in a few months.

Mr. Fuseli, having accepted the office of keeper at the royal academy, thereby vacated his situation as professor of painting; and on the 26th of Aug. Mr. Opie was unanimously elected to the vacant professorship.

The salary of the latter gentleman, as professor, will be raised from 60*l.* to 100*l.* per annum.

Mr. J. Eckstein, whose drawings of the Diamond Rock off Martinique, we announced some time ago and which only waited for a proper description to accompany them, to be published, has undertaken a complete system of drawing at Philadelphia. This gentleman, late painter and statuary to the King of Prussia, is now appointed professor of drawing to the Philadelphia academy of arts.

AMERICA.—A gentleman of Philadelphia, of the name of Peake, has been for some time proposing a collection of casts from several of the most celebrated antique statues, as the Apollo de Belvidere, the fighting and dying gladiators, &c. for the inspection of the public. For these casts he is partly indebted to the liberality of Mr. Smith, brother to William Smith, esq. of South Carolina, who has entrusted them to his care, with the hope of laying the foundation of an academy of fine arts in that city: several of the inhabitants have been active in forwarding the plan, and they have been flattered with the patronage of Benjamin West, esq. who has estimated the probability of his ending his days in his native land.

DOMESTIC INCIDENTS, EVENTS, &c.

GRAND JUNCTION CANAL.

WE are happy to announce the completion nearly of all the great works which were going on upon this important and extensive line of inland navigation, rendered peculiarly interesting to Englishmen by its forming an immediate connection with the British capital, and the numerous canals which intersect and cross each other in all directions between our great manufacturing towns and works. On Monday morning last, the stupendous embankment between Woolverton and Cotsgrove, near Stoney Stratford, was opened for the use of the trade; by this great work, nine locks by its side, four down, and five up, are avoided, and one level sheet of water is now formed from Stoke Briern to some miles south of Fenny Stratford, as well on the Buckingham branch, extending to within a mile of that town. The arches under this embankment, for the passage of the Ouse river, which were said to be sinking, soon after the centres were struck, have happily proved sufficient, and the embankment seems to possess great stability.

The branch and iron railway that are to connect the grand junction canal with the new river at the town of Northampton, as also with the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire union canal, are proceeding with great spirit, and their completion may be expected about the end of next month. This new junction is expected to prove of great importance to Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and all the adjoining counties, as well as to the company.

The gazette of Saturday, Sept. 21, contains a notice, that application is intended to be made to parliament in the next session for leave to bring in a bill for making and maintaining certain reservoirs, and other necessary works in the parish of St. Luke, Chelsea, for the purpose of supply-

ing with water from the river Thames, such part of the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, as lies within the town of Kensington, and the several parishes and townships of Chelsea, Kensington, Hammersmith, Fulham, Chiswick, Ealing, Hanwell, Old Brentford, New Brentford, Heston, Hounslow, and Isleworth, all in the county of Middlesex; likewise the several parishes of Battersea, Wandsworth, Putney, Barnes, Mortlake, Richmond, and Kew, in the county of Surrey.

The same gazette also contains a notice, that application is intended to be made to parliament in the ensuing session, for leave to bring in a bill for making and maintaining water-works, aqueducts, and reservoirs, (and for supplying with water) in the several parishes of Stratford, Bow, otherwise Stratford-le-Bow, in the county of Middlesex; and the places and parishes of Hackney, Bethnal Green, St. Mary's, Whitechapel, St. George's, East, St. John's, Wapping, St. Paul's, Shadwell, St. Dunstan's, Stepney, St. Ann's, Limehouse, Spitalfields, Aldgate, Bishopsgate within and without, St. Luke's, Shoreditch, Newington, Tottenham, Edmonton, Enfield, and the hamlets and places of Ratcliffe, Mile End Town, Poplar, Old Ford, Homerton, Upper and Lower Clapton, Stamford Hill, Dalston, Kingsland, Shacklewell, Holloway, and parts adjacent, in the county of Middlesex.

It also gives notice that similar application is intended to be made for leave to bring in a bill to alter and enlarge the powers of an act of the twelfth year of his present Majesty's reign, entitled, "An act for lighting such part of the town of Islington, as lies within the parish of St. Mary, in the county of Middlesex, and for establishing a regular nightly watch therein."

CORRECT LIST of PUBLICATIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

As the List of Books, given in the MONTHLY EPITOME, is the MOST COMPLETE OF ANY PUBLISHED, and that of Prints, Maps, Charts, and Music, the ONLY ONE OF THE KIND printed in any Periodical Publication, the Editor requests that Authors, Publishers, and Artists, will continue to transmit the Titles of their Works, post-paid; and respectfully informs them, that they shall always meet with a ready Insertion, and WITHOUT ANY EXPENCE.

BIOGRAPHY.

MEMOIRS of the Life and Theatrical Career of the late Samuel Foote, Esq. commonly called the English Aristophanes, including Anecdotes and Facts never before published, relative to his various Dramatic and Literary Contemporaries; and a Collection of his Bon Mots, chiefly Original, with three of his Dramatic Pieces not published in his Works. By Wm. Cooke, Esq. Barrister at Law.—3 Vols. Foolscap 8vo. 15s. boards.

BOTANY.

Plantarum Guianæ Rariorum Icones et Descriptiones, Hactenus Ineditæ. Auctore Edvardo Rudge, Soc. Reg. Lond. et Lin. Soc. Lond. Socio. Fasciculus II. et III. 15s. each.

The Botanist's Guide through the Counties of Northumberland and Durham. Vol. I. 3s. Newcastle, printed.

DIVINITY.

A Second Warning to Christian Professors, occasioned by some Passages in the first, containing injurious Reflections on Protestant Dissenters; in five Letters to the Rev. Rowland Hill, M. A. 12mo. 1s.

An Essay towards a connected Elucidation of the Prophetical Part of the Apocalypse; compiled with the Help of some original Communications. By S. Morrell. 8vo. 3s.

A Sermon on the Duty of the Relations of those who are in dangerous Illness, and the Hazard of hasty Interment. Preached at Lancaster, July 17, 1805.

Practical Essays on select Parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England. By the Rev. T. Biddulph, A. M. 5 Vols. 12mo. 1l. 8s. boards.

EDUCATION.

A Treatise on the Constructing and Copying of Maps; containing I. an Elucidation of the Globular, Stereographic, and Mercator's Projec-

tion of the World.—II. On the Projection of Maps of particular Parts of the World.—III. A Description of Instruments, by the Help of which the Meridians and Parallels of Latitude may be drawn with great Facility.—IV. Directions for inserting Places, drawing Rivers, Sea Coasts, and other Boundaries, and for copying, colouring, mounting, and other Minutiae of Mapping. Illustrated with Plates and Wood Cuts. By Thomas Dix. 8vo. 3s.

The Child's French Grammar, for the Use of Schools and private Families; intended as an Introduction to the Practical French Grammar of Nicolas. 2s. bound.

Fugitive Pieces for the Use of Schools. By M. B. Collyer. Vol. II. 2s. 6d. boards, or on fine Paper, 3s. bound.

FINE ARTS.

Select Views of London and its Environs; containing 60 highly finished Engravings, from original Paintings and Drawings, accompanied by Letter-press Descriptions.—4 to 5l. Imperial Ditto, 7l. 10s.

GEOGRAPHY.

An Account of the Operations carried on for Accomplishing a Trigonometrical Survey of England and Wales, continued from the Year 1797 to 1799; also an Account of the Measurement of an Arc of the Meridian, extending from Dunnose, Isle of Wight, to Clifton, in Yorkshire, in the Years 1800, 1, 2. By Lieut.-Col. Mudge, Royal Artillery, and F. R. S. Illustrated by 15 Copper-plates. 4to. 1l. 5s. boards.

MEDICINE.

Remarks on the Report of M. Chaptal, (late Minister of the Interior), to the Consuls of the former Government of France; with an Examination of the Claim of Guyton de Morveau to the Discovery of the Power of the Mineral Acid Gases, on Contagion. By Carmichael Smith, M. D. &c. 1s. 6d.

Observations on the Composition and Uses of the Water at the New Sulphur Baths, at Dimsdale, near Darlington, in the County of Durham. 2s. 6d. sewed.

Commentaries on the Treatment of Schirri and Cancer, from the earliest Period to the present Time; for the Purpose of pointing out and establishing a Specific for those Diseases, on rational and scientific Principles. By Wm. Thomas, 8vo. 3s. sewed. Murray.

Tracts and Observations on the Salutary Treatment of Infants, not strictly Medical; comprehending a new System in Management and Discipline, during the Period of infantile Life; wherein are considered and pointed out several important Circumstances essentially connected with Health, with a View to anticipate as well as to remove Diseases during that difficult Period, chiefly for the Information and Guidance of Female Parents. By Robert Bath. 2vo. 5s. boards.

An Epitome of Infantile Diseases, with their Causes, Symptoms, and Method of Cure; published a few Months since in Latin by Dr. Heberden, and translated into English by J. Smyth, M. B. of Matlock, Derbyshire. 3s.

Cases of Pulmonary Consumption, &c. treated with Uva Ursi: to which are added some practical Observations. By Robert Bound, M. D.—7s. 6d. boards. Murray.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Observations on a Passage in Mr. Playfair's Letter to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, relative to the Mathematical Pretensions of the Scottish Clergy. 1s. 6d.

A Letter to the Editors of the Edinburgh Review. By the Rev. W. Cockburn, M. A. 1s.

A few Thoughts on the Creation, Generation, Growth, and Evolution of the Human Body and Soul; on the Spiritual and immortal Nature of Man; and on the Resurrection of the Body at the last Day, in a spiritual, incorruptible, and glorified State. 3s. 6d. sewed.

The Names and Descriptions of the Proprietors of Unclaimed Dividends in Bank Stock, and on the Public Funds transferable at the

Bank of England, which became due on or before the 10th of October, 1802, and remained unpaid June 29, 1805. Part I. With the Dates when the first Dividends respectively became payable, and the Number of Dividends due thereon. Published by Order of the Court of Directors of the Bank of England.

NOVELS.

Memoirs of Bryan Perdue: a Novel. By Thomas Holcroft. 3 Vols. 12mo. 13s. boards.

The Novice of St. Dominick: a Novel. By Miss Owenson, Author of St. Clair, &c. 4 Vols. 12mo.—11. boards.

Mathilde, ou Memoires tirées de L'Histoire des Croisades, par M. de Cottin. 6 Vols. 12mo.

The Wheel of Fortune; a Novel, in 3 Vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. boards.

Rodolphe of Werdenberg. By La Fontaine. 2 Vols. 7s.

The Adventures of Victor Allen. 2 Vols. 7s.

ORIENTAL LITERATURE.

Moral Aphorisms, in Arabic, and a Persian Commentary, in Verse, translated from the Originals; with Specimens of Persian Poetry; likewise Additions to the Author's Conformity of the Arabic and Persian with the English Language. By Stephen Weston, B. D. F. R. S. A. S. 8vo. 5s.

POETRY.

The British Martial; or English Epigrammatist; being the largest Collection of Epigrams ever published, and containing all the best in the Language, with some Originals. By the Editor of the Encyclopædia of Wit.

Soldier's Fare, or, Patriotism and Hospitality; a Poem. By a Volunteer. 1s. 6d.

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OBITUARY.

AUGUST 12.—The Rev. Dr. A. Bacon, Vicar of Wakefield, in the 75th year of his age, and 40th of his incumbency.

At his seat at Appledurcombe, in the Isle of Wight, in his 54th year, the Right Hon. Sir Richard Worsley, Bart. He is succeeded in title by the Rev. Dr. Holmes, of Pidford House, in the Isle of Wight, now Sir Henry Worsley Holmes, Bart.—He succeeded his father, Sir Thomas, in 1768; and in 1775, married Sey-

mour, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of the late Sir John Fleming, Bart. of Brompton Park, Middlesex, by whom he had one son, Robert Edwin W. who died before him.—By this failure of male-issue, a jointure of 70,000l. reverts to Lady Worsley; and, Sir Richard leaving no will, his estates and property devolve to his niece, the daughter of the Hon. Mr. Bridgman Simpson.—He had lived some time past in a state of seclusion at his favourite re-

treas; and his death is said to be the effect of apoplexy. He was comptroller of his Majesty's household, governor of the Isle of Wight; represented the borough of Newport in Parliament; had, in the early part of life, made the tour of Europe, and formed a collection of marbles, statues, and other antiques, engraved and published in two volumes, folio, under the title of "Museum Worsleianum, 17 . . ." He was the author of "An History of the Isle of Wight, 1781," 4to. with miserable plates by Godfrey. Our readers will recollect the trial before Lord Mansfield, in the Court of King's Bench, between this Baronet and Captain Bisset, for criminal conversation with the plaintiff's wife, 1782. The family mansion at Appledurcombe underwent a thorough repair in the reign of Elizabeth, and was taken down by Sir Robert W. at the beginning of the last century.

Aug. 16.—At Tailogie, Scotland, Lord Ankerville, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.

Aug. 23.—At Norwich, aged 77, Augustine Neverne, Esq. Mr. N. was a native of Switzerland, and invited to this country by Mr. Garrick, whose protection and friendship he enjoyed during the life of that eminent man: he was considered to be the most finished and gentlemanly minuet dancer of his time; and in the exercise of his profession as a master, has done more to advance his art than any other man. He was esteemed by his pupils, among whom were most of the nobility of the kingdom, respected by his acquaintance, and beloved by his family and friends.

Suddenly, in Luke-street, Dublin, Mr. John Galbraith, bookseller.

Sept. 1.—At Wydford, Herts, after a few days illness, the Rev. Peter Hammond, Rector of Wydford and South Mims, and one of the Chaplains to his Royal Highness the Prince.

Of a Pleurisy, Mr. Vincent, unrivalled in his profession of a writing engraver.

Lately, at Barbadoes, Lieut. Gen. Sir Wm. Myers, Bart. Commander in Chief at the Leeward Islands, and Colonel of the 2d West India regiment. His promotions in the army

were, Colonel, March 1, 1794; Major-General, May 3, 1796; Lieut. General, Sept. 25, 1803. He was appointed Colonel of the 2d West India Regiment, April 24, 1795; and created a Baronet, July 3, 1804. Sir William was born at Whitehaven, in Cumberland, March 1, 1750-1. He married in August, 1779, Elizabeth, daughter of James MacEvers, of New York, Esq. by whom he has left issue, William, a Lieut.-Colonel, born in Dublin, Nov. 27, 1783; and Elizabeth, born Feb. 1782, married at Cork, in 1801, to Wm. Erskine, of Cardross, Captain in the 16th Regiment of Foot.

Sept. 13.—At his house, in Gloucester-place, New Road, Philip Rogers Bearcroft, Esq. late Commissary-General of Accounts to the Leeward Islands, and one of the Commissioners for investigating the accounts of the Army Expenditure in the West Indies.

Sept. 14.—Sir James Tylney Long, Bart. This young gentleman was a minor, and son of the late Sir James T. Long, by his second wife, Catherine Windsor, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Plymouth.

At Weybridge, Surrey, Sir Henry Tuite, Bart. of Souagh, near Mullingar, in Ireland. Sir Henry married Miss Elizabeth Cobbe, niece of the late Marquis of Waterford.

Lately, at Brompton, Mr. Charles Fairfield, a painter, of extraordinary merit and knowledge in his profession, but of so modest and diffident a disposition, that, notwithstanding his acknowledged talents, he rarely ventured to paint from the impulse of his own mind, and would not do it at all unless by the importunity of friends; nevertheless, he has left behind him some original pictures, the merit of which will hand his name down to posterity, as an eminent man of his day; and the many excellent copies of the finest pictures in the Flemish, French, and English schools, which have been produced by his pencil, will extend the fame of the several masters whose works he has so copied, whilst his own worth, with reference to these, will be lost in the admirable and inimitable success of his imitations, which scarcely any eye can even now discriminate from the originals. Many of these

copies will be found in the first collections, both at home and abroad; and the proprietors of them have no other idea, than that they possess the original pictures, having paid value as if they were such, although he, poor man, sold them at a very low rate, and never represented them otherwise than as copies by himself. Notwithstanding Mr. Fairfield's great merit, he was never easy in his circumstances; and, for a great part of his laborious life, was under the clutches of the gripping and unconscientious picture-dealer, who gathered the fruits of his labours, by practising deceits upon the world.—Mr. Fairfield died about the age of 45, after a very chequered, hard, and uncomfortable life; he was a very honourable, generous, and good man: he lived in retirement and seclusion, and was little known to the world: had he been more known, he would have been less unhappy, and more successful.

DEATHS ABROAD.

Nicholas Joseph Cugnot, born at Vaid, in Lorraine, the 26th of February, 1725, lately died at Paris, in the Rue de Tournou. He served as an engineer in Germany, and afterwards went into the Low Countries in the service of Prince Charles; from whence he came to Paris, in 1763, where he gave lessons on the military art.

He was the author of different works on this subject; in 1766, *Elemens de l'Art Militaire, ancien et moderne*, 2 vols. 12mo.; in 1769, *Fortification de Campagne, ou Traité de la Science de la Construction, de la Defense et de l'Attaque des Retranchement*.

mens, 12mo. a work of some merit; the *Théorie de la Fortification*, with *Observations on the different Systems* which have appeared since the invention of Artillery, and a new Method of constructing glacis; a single volume duodecimo.

Cugnot invented a new fusée, which he presented to Marshal Saxe, and which was adopted amongst his Hulans; he was also the inventor of some machines. Before the revolution, he enjoyed a pension from the state of 500 livres, the only resource of his declining years, but was lost to him in that horrible struggle of parties. Aged as he was, he was nearly perishing with misery, when a lady of Brussels, who was at Paris during the revolution, rendered him assistance. The infirmities of age still pressing on, a young friend of his, M. Messier, member of the National Institute, found means to present a memorial to the First Consul, and which was attended with such success as to be the means of reinstating him in his former pension, with the addition of 400 more, which however he enjoyed only four years.

M. de Schirach, at Altona, on the 7th of December, in his 60th year. He was known by many historical works; amongst others, by a good translation of the *Lives of Plutarch*, and more especially by his *Political Journal*, which he conducted about 25 years.

At Berlin, on the 9th of December, 1804, W. A. Teller, a celebrated theological writer of that place. His writings were not, however, confined to Theology, as his *Dictionary* is highly spoken of.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have to apologize for the omission of an *Agricultural Report* this month, our correspondents having entirely neglected to furnish us with it. Our Friend *ONLEY's* Communication is received, and will appear in our next; as will also those of *Anonymous* and *R. S.*: the two former, however, came too late for insertion in the present Number. The various Communications of *R. M. D. T. S. D. H. M. S.* and *X. Y.* are under consideration. *Q. U. I. Z.* will see that his Hints have been attended to. We hope that an *OLD WOMAN* will not put the determination which she announces into practice, as we shall be glad to hear from her again.—Communications for this Work are requested to be addressed to the "Editor of the MONTHLY EPITOME and LITERARY MAGAZINE," at Mr. Walker's, No. 44, Paternoster-row, or to Mr. Clarke, No. 38, New Bond-street, before the 18th of each Month, if intended for insertion in the succeeding Numbers.—Papers on *Literary or Scientific Subjects* will be preferred to those of a more general Nature.